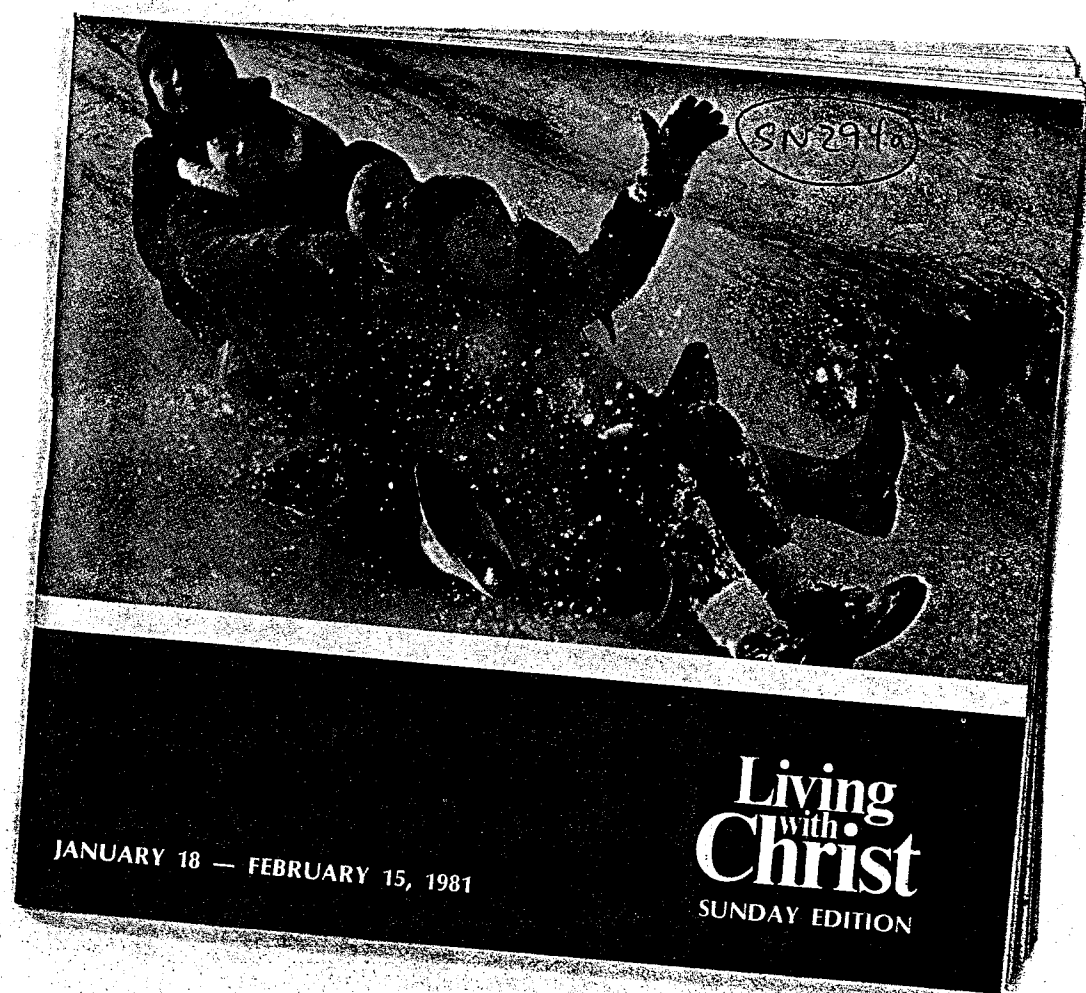




JANUARY 18 — FEBRUARY 15, 1981

Living
with
Christ
SUNDAY EDITION



Many Gifts, One Spirit

1981 Week of prayer for Christian unity

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

SUNDAY JAN 18 1981

St Paul's RC

The Theme suggest for this year's week of
Prayer for Christian Unity,
is, "Many Gifts - One Spirit"

This is a line from a Book in The Bible we
call the "First Epistle of Paul To the Corinthians"

It seems there was a lot of correspondence
back & forth Paul & this Christian Church
got started by his ministry in Corinth.

I. Cor - wasn't even the 1st letter -

angry letter referred to.

part of what we now name as II Cor.
refers to an ang letter & is chief
written in spirit of repentance &
reconciliation.

part of what we now name as II Cor.
it reads like a very angry letter.

Corinthian very moving correspondence,

revealing glimpses of the first Christian
relationships with each other.

revealing glimpses of early Church.

lots of improper, wrong some, disturbing things
about that group of people.

quarrels & divisions, - who was favorite leader

- what was the true Christian message

- who was supposed to whom

Should have been doing
all kinds of stuff - they weren't!
were doing all kinds of stuff
they shouldn't.

all through the letters - Paul is trying
to bring some cure to these many ills.

Seems to me

Most helpful

NOT when he is piling on the
SHOULDS

But when he is trying to announce what IS.

No ONE can say JESUS IS LORD
except by the Holy Spirit.

To the extent to which any of us genuinely
acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus! -

we are moved by the Holy Spirit -

- } creates
 } sustaining - moves.
 } Makes us somebody } H.S.

arg on ~~moving~~ Moved by the One Spirit

Variables & gifts
services
workings

Lots of Differences

one Spirit, one Lord, One God

Same Spirit - makes us different
enables us to make different
contributions

Different gifts
series
work } common Good.

Differences - don't divide.
- common good.

Metaphor of Body :
- parts.

Your Gifts - Bless The Others.
differing part Blesses The Others.

Sharp Focus :- in spite of our sinful
divisions in the
Church.

When You - cordova

- acknowledge Jesus X as Lord. ^{Bless Doubt} ^{evil-eds} Bless
- big - differing gifts for building up one ^{us} ^{us} ^{us} another in the Faith.
- your own way - gathering in one spirit.
- variety of people -
- multi cultural.
- multi national
- young & old - rich & poor -
- Downtown & suburbs.

Bless us -

can it spoil it for us
for our common good.

Same time! - Three

We don't celebrate it very much
give thanks

we keep aware of ourselves & our gifts
- and that is very well

How many years - last had an exchange.
Share ups & downs of our Church life.
- Keep our words separate.

Our rules & structure keeps us from
being ONE - as is the spirit
one one.

Paul also wrote about Godly sorrow.

earthly sorrow - futile thing
Godly sorrow - as Paul used God
works repentance

Repentance in German God and our gifts some.
Love of the world around us to which we are sent
Godly sorrow on behalf of the unity we do not feel
manifest.

in the name of the Father & Son &
Holy Spirit - amen