



DIAKONIA Prayer Letter June 2018

Greetings from Rev Christa Megaw on behalf of DUCA, Diakonia in the Uniting Church in Australia.

As we come closer to the time for us gathering together for the DIAKONIA Executive Committee in Berlin, I've been thinking of the gift of Christian unity.

Jesus speaks about this in John 17, especially verse 11. 'And now I am no longer in the world but they are in the world and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in Your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.' John 17:11.

These words come from the context of Jesus praying for his disciples, just before he leaves to walk across the Kidron valley to the Garden of Gethsemane. He must have known that danger was ahead of him, that he may be arrested and maybe killed. So this passage is Jesus' last words to his friends. His last chance to tell them what is really important.

What does he say at this crucial time? He says - remember that I was sent from God and that what I taught you comes from God. I am sending you into the world to share this. And what will be the evidence for this? **You will be united as one.**

A favourite song of mine has the chorus:

One in Christ we all agree

One in the Spirit, One in the Father,

One in life that we receive,

One as we grow into Love.' (by Leigh Newton)

Join me in this prayer: God of grace, as we prepare to meet in Berlin for the Diakonia Executive Committee Meeting, may we be one. May we grow into loving You more and loving each other more, as followers of Christ. Amen.