As we all come together in our various crossroads of life, we also come together in the unity of our common goals within The American Legion. That "Unity" is clearly spelled out in our Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion which we pledge or avow to at the beginning of each Legion meeting, conference, and convention. That begins with: "For God and Country" and ends with "...to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our mutual helpfulness." To add to that we also see where God in His love, speaks of "Unity" in Psalm 133:1, where He tells us "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" He tells us again in Paul's letter to the Ephesians 4:2-4, "2with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another 3endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling..." So, it is not just as we see in our Preamble where we should be unified in one purpose, but also in God's Word, we should also be unified in and with God. Where Unity is missing, sin may prevail and success in our "unified purpose" is lost. The most important part of that Unity is in love for one another, help and support of each other is needed.

For whatever reason for each of us, we have been called to one purpose; to love one another within The American Legion, for our state and nation, and for our veterans. We have pledged ourselves to mutual helpfulness, as well. So, as we embark on coming back together as a Department of The American Legion, let us remember to do so in love, peace, and UNITY, helping each other along the way. If we do so, with God's guidance and blessings, we can and will succeed. And finally, not forgetting the words of Benjamine Franklin as he spoke to the Constitutional Convention of 1787:

"'except the Lord build this house, they labor in vain that built it.' I firmly believe ... that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel."

Without being unified with each other AND God, success remains a question. Let us all keep in our thoughts and Prayers, by your own belief, to seek His Spiritual guidance and wisdom in all we do and speak.

"For God and Country"