

Series "Called To Be Saints"
"Church Cliques"
1 Corinthians 1:10-17
Study-2

Even the 12 Apostles did not always get along with each other.
Some of the times it was the worst of timings. (Context going to the cross)
Matthew 20:20-24

If you want to know what Corinth was like, read **Romans 1:18-32**. Paul wrote the Roman epistle while in Corinth.

In **1 Corinthians 1:1-9**, Paul described the church that God sees;
in **1 Corinthians 1:10-31**, Paul Now describes the church that men see.

Thought of Our Passage: "Believers Experience Unity Through Jesus Christ, But A Disunity Reveals A Man Focus Not A God Focus"

- 1. Verse 10 Disunity Is Wrong**
- 2. Verses 11-12 Disunity Is Exposed**
- 3. Verses 13-17 Disunity Is Corrected**

1. Verse 10 Disunity Is Wrong

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now

This is a change of direction. Paul started his letter with focusing upon Jesus Christ.

Paul calls attention to Jesus. He went on to mention **Jesus 9 times in 9 verses.**

I exhort you, *"to call near, to invite, or consolation comfort"* When we speak of exhorting someone, we are wanting to call them close in order to speak to them.

Hebrews 3:13; Hebrews 10:25

brethren - those in the family of God, **believers** - those born-again.

by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

This is the basis of the exhortation; it is because of Jesus. Paul's authority was derived from Jesus Christ!

Ephesians 4:15 Truth without love is brutality, love without truth is hypocrisy.

3 Goals To Maintain The Unity:

- 1. Speak The Same Things: that you all agree,**
The idea of *speaking the same thing*.

Jesus is Lord, submit one to another, God's chain of guidance, Marriage, Family, Job, Fellowship! If it is Biblical we need to go with it!

- 2. Elimination of Divisions: and there be no divisions among you,**
"a split or gap ("schism"), lit. "to tear a garment"

The Word of God preached brings division.

Galatians 4:16 (Non-Christian unwilling to believe the truth!)

but you be made complete *"to set a bone that has been broken"*

- 3. Unity In Attitude: in the same mind and in the same judgment.**
The idea is that we have essentials that are common to the Christian.

2. Verses 11-12 Disunity Is Exposed

1 Corinthians 1:11

Paul Gives 3 Facts Regarding Their Disunity:

- 1. Confirmed Accusations, Not Hearsay: For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, (Woman) "Green"**

Paul is saying something very important here. He is saying the name of the persons that made an accusation against another.

Matthew 18:15-20

- 2. Quarrels: that there are quarrels among you.** *"wrangling, contention, debate, strife, variance"*

Fighting over nonessential things. One church fought over the position of the piano on the platform.

Galatians 5:19-21

James 4:1 (NLT) What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Isn't it the whole army of evil desires at war within you?

1 Corinthians 1:12 Now I mean this,
I like this because this could be misunderstood.

3. Keep Your Eyes On Jesus: that each one of you is saying,
Paul is speaking about a quarrel that had polarized the church.

"I am of Paul," (Loyalists - Old Testament teacher and doctrine)

and "I of Apollos," (Stylists - Eloquent Preacher) Acts 18:24

and "I of Cephas," (Traditionalist) This is Peter the apostle who ministered to the Jews.

and "I of Christ." (Spiritualist – Christ is my Pastor!) This was the ultra-spiritual that was in Paul's day and are still with us today.

2 Timothy 4:13

Instead of emphasizing the "Message of the Word" the Corinthians emphasized the "Messenger of the Word"

3. Verses 13-17 Disunity Is Corrected

1 Corinthians 1:13

Paul Gives 4 Corrections To The Church:

1. Jesus Cannot Be Divided: Has Christ been divided?

The verb means, "Has Christ been divided and different parts handed out to different people?"

The very idea is grotesque and must be rejected. Paul did not preach one Christ, Apollos another, and Peter another. There is but one Savior and one Gospel (**Galatians 1:6-9**).

Ephesians 4:3-6

2. Faith In Paul Cannot Save You: Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Was Paul the one who died for the sins of the world?
No teacher can forgive your sins!

3. Baptism Is Not In The Name Of Paul:
Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

That the focus is on who baptized versus the point of baptism!

Matthew 23:8-10

1 Corinthians 1:14 Paul remembers two men that he did baptize.

1 Corinthians 12:13

Crispus had been the ruler of the synagogue in Corinth (**Acts 18:8**)
Gaius was probably the man Paul lived with when he wrote Romans
(**Romans 16:23**)

1 Corinthians 1:15 There is no group that can claim that they were baptized disciples of Paul.

1 Corinthians 1:16 "The household of Stephanas"
1 Corinthians 16:15-18.

beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.
That is a good position to take when we are not sure.

1 Corinthians 1:17

4. Paul Came To Evangelize: For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, Took Them To The Cross Of Jesus Christ: preach the gospel, That the gospel is needed to save the lost but also to set the saved straight.

The gospel will deliver the Christian from factions, dissensions, the flesh! It puts into perspective what life should really be!

not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.
(1 Corinthians 2:4-5)

Application:

- 1.** Disunity Is Wrong - To Guard Against It, We Must Speak The Same Things. Don't Allow Divisions, And Maintain An Attitude Of Unity:
- 2.** Disunity Is Exposed – When Confronting Disunity, Always Make Sure It's Confirmed Accusations And Not Hearsay. Examine If Disunity Is Over Essential Or The Nonessential. Disunity Is Often The Result Of Focusing Upon Man And Not God:
- 3.** Disunity Is Corrected – Jesus Is Our Unity, The Placing Of Faith In Man Can Never Save You. Persons Are Never Baptized Into A Man. The Gospel Message Is Our Message: