

August 16th, 2026**When the Church Acts Like the Culture**
1 Corinthians 1:10-17

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. ¹¹My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹²What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

1 Corinthians 1:10–17 (NIV)

Division grows when allegiance shifts from Jesus to _____.

OVERVIEW

- A plea for unity. (v. 10)
- Divided over personalities. (vv. 11-12)
- Missing the point. (vv. 13-16)
- Centering on the Gospel. (v. 17)

IMPLICATIONS

1. We must guard against _____ in the church. John 17:20-21

2. Mature disciples refuse to build identity around _____. Matt 5:9; 23-24; Mark 10:43

3. The _____ calls us toward humility and reconciliation.

TALK IT OVER

Because we believe that the sharing of our ideas and beliefs enhances our spiritual growth in ways teaching alone cannot - we encourage you to join a small group at Sunridge and discuss some of the following questions.

What's a rivalry, team, brand, or opinion people get strangely passionate about today? (Sports, politics, phones, coffee, social media debates, etc.) Why do you think people become so emotionally attached to "their side"?

In 1 Corinthians 1:10–17, Paul warns the church about division and tribalism. Where do you see modern culture pressuring Christians to divide into camps or tribes today?

Paul says the Corinthians were building identity around personalities instead of Jesus. Why do you think people are naturally drawn to attaching themselves to leaders, influencers, or personalities? How can that become spiritually unhealthy?

Jesus prayed in John 17 that His followers would be one. What makes unity among Christians difficult today? What does healthy Christian unity look like without compromising truth?

The message emphasized that "Division grows when allegiance shifts from Jesus to tribes." What's one practical way you can help protect unity, pursue reconciliation, or keep Jesus more central in your relationships this week?



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