

1 CORINTHIANS
CALLED OUT
SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM



Sermon: **Church Unity (1 Corinthians 1:10-17)**

Date: **February 13, 2016**

One of the most beautiful attributes of the Christian church is the unity that we have in Christ Jesus. We are united in his person and work. The church in Corinth, however, was a church divided. It found its identity not in Christ, but in human personality and celebrity. Consequently, this led to disunity, rivalry, and division. In this week's study as we continue to study the first chapter of 1 Corinthians, we will learn what true Christian unity looks like. We will be challenged to evaluate our lives in order to see if we are finding our identity in something other than Jesus Christ. Finally, we will be reminded that Jesus needs to be the one and only rallying point in our lives and in our church.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 and ensure that you've listened to Sunday's sermon.
 - a. In verse 10, Paul paints a picture of what church unity looks like. According to this verse, what does true Christian unity entail?
 - b. Describe what caused the disunity in the Corinthian church (see verses 11-12).
 - c. How might the social and cultural situation in the city of Corinth have contributed to the disunity in the church?
 - d. What are the reasons that Paul gives in verse 13 that explain why it is wrong to place your identity in something other than Christ?
 - e. Why do you think that finding our identity in something other than Jesus leads to disunity and division?
 - f. On the other hand, why is finding our identity in Christ and his gospel the only thing that can lead to true unity?

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- g. What are some examples of things that we can wrongly find our identity in? What are you tempted to wrongly find your identity in?
2. Please read Ephesians 4:1-16.
 - a. According to verse 3, how strong must our desire be to maintain church unity?
 - b. According to verses 4-6, what are the common things that mark our unity in Christ?
 - c. According to verses 7-16, how do the diverse spiritual gifts that we've been given contribute toward this unity?

Group Discussion Questions

1. Why is disunity in the church such a significant issue?
2. Our culture and social situation in Canada is similar to that of Corinth. What can we do to protect our celebrity culture from seeping into our church and causing division?
3. What are some examples of things that we can be tempted to wrongly find our identity in? Why does this lead to disunity?
4. What are some of the benefits and fruit of true Christian unity in the church? (see Acts 4:32-37; Philippians 2:1-4; and Colossians 3:12-15)
5. What can we do as individuals and as a small group to maintain and grow in the unity that we have in Christ?

Accountability Questions

Is there anything in your life that you wrongly find your identity in at times?