

Message Notes

"Divisions in the Church"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – *"Why can't we all just get along?"*

The Ten Problems in Corinth

The Solution – *Agree with one another*
1 Corinthians 1:10a

The Problem – *Chloe's informants narked!*
Schisms in the church at Corinth
1 Corinthians 1:10b-12

Four Groups

Paul
Apollos
Cephas
Christ

Three Big Questions:

1. If God likes unity in the church why are there so many different denominations?
2. Is it always right to just go along with the flow in the name of unity?
Galatians 1:6-9

Colossians 2:18-19

Jude 1:3-4

3. What then, does it mean to be non-divisive?

Paul's passion for them – *to be centered on the gospel and the power of the cross of Jesus*
1 Corinthians 1:17

Romans 1:16

Application – *"Are you a rock star follower, or interested in the incredible power of God?"*

1 Corinthians 1:10-17

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.

¹¹My brothers, 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 into the name of Paul?

¹⁴I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so no one can say that you were baptized into 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 words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Galatians 1:6-9

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷ which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! ⁹As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!

Colossians 2:18-19

¹⁸Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions. ¹⁹He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

Jude 1:3-4

³Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. ⁴For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

Romans 1:16

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.