

Likes and Lights 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 Danny Hall • April 14, 2013

The cause of conflict

The cure for conflict

To become a part of a relational environment (small group, mentoring, micro group, etc.), please contact Tony Catudal at 925-474-9410 or tcatudal@vcclive.org.



Overview

As Paul delves into the first major issue of the book, he calls the people of the Corinthian church to grow in unity. He is obviously upset that there are divisions in the church, particularly the divisions that are formed around personalities. It seems that the church in Corinth had become more attached to certain leaders than to Christ, a danger that can happen in any church in any era. The only solution to this is to return to the sure foundation of the gospel, as Christ is our center.

About this lesson: The study guide for this message is structured to allow time for deeper focus on the engaging with our lives section. Plan to spend some time together in prayer around this topic.

Engaging with each other

- 1. Who has been or is a spiritual hero to you or what has been an extremely helpful program in your spiritual life?
- 2. Share about a time when you had a conflict with someone. What did you find made it better? What made it worse?

Engaging with the Bible

- 1. Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17. How would you describe the central issue that Paul was concerned with?
- 2. What are some other ways that people become divided in a church?

4. In what way is the cross "emptied of its power" when we rely on human ingenuity to communicate the gospel? (This is a theme that will come up again later.)

Engaging with our lives

- 1. What would a church that is united around the gospel look like?
- 2. In what ways can you contribute to VCC becoming united around the gospel?
- 3. Think back to the spiritual hero or program you mentioned earlier. Have you ever put them above Christ? Why or why not?

Prior to engaging in your time of regular group prayer, take some extended time to pray together as a group for the unity of VCC; that we always be cross-centered, and ask how the Lord wants you to contribute to that.

For a much deeper look at this topic, check out *Renovation of the Church*, by Kent Carlson and Mike Lueken.

3. What are similar issues in our current day? How about here at VCC?