

God's Beautiful Messy Church (1 Corinthians)
Week's Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17
Discussion Guide: January 9, 2022

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. -1 Corinthians 1:9

How did remember your "core" in Christ this past week?

OPEN:

- "Celebrity Christianity" has been a much needed a popular subject matter in the past couple of years.
 - o What are the pros and cons of having many influential leader's teaching at your fingertips?
 - o How can "divisions" set in as a result?

READ and ASK: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; John 13:34-35, 17:20-23; 1 John 2:3-6,

- What was Paul's main concern for the Corinthians in this text?
- What difference does local church unity make?
 - o What does it mean for Christians to be "perfectly united in mind and thought"?
- How should we handle arguments that take place among the church?
 - o How well do you think the church does at this?
- What church divisions have you known or heard about?
 - o What has been the outcome in church splits of which you are aware of? Could the split have been avoided? How?
 - o What do you think is the heart issue of most church splits?
- What witness does a unified church give to a lost world?
 - o What social and cultural forces present the greatest threat to the unity of Christ's church today?
- What should the church be unified around? What does it look like?

APPLY:

- Have you ever put a spiritual mentor or leader above Christ? If so, why do you think that happened?
 - o How do we strike the balance between recognizing the difference between learning from those God has placed in positions of leadership and influence and placing them on too high of a pedestal?

- What can we do to build true unity and guard against division?

- NEXT STEP: How can you make intentional efforts toward unity or toward protecting unity in our church this week?

Memory Work:

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. - 1 Corinthians 1:10

Next Week's Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16