



A Church Divided, A Faithful God

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Discussion

1. Think about the last time you received a handwritten letter or card. Why did you receive it? What was it about?
2. What resonated with you from Sunday's worship?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3.

3. Paul begins his letter by identifying himself in relationship to Jesus. What does that reveal about Paul? What would your identifier be?
4. How does Paul's description of the church inform your understanding of church?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:4-9.

5. Locate all the phrases in these verses that Paul uses to remind the Corinthians of the way God has provided for them. What does this teach you about God? What does this teach you about the church?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

6. Consider Paul's use of "brothers and sisters" and his reference to "Chloe's household." What does it reveal about Paul? What does it reveal about the church in Corinth?
7. What appears to be the division Paul is seeking to correct? How would you explain this division in modern terms?
8. What is Paul's response to this division? Reference specific phrases and verses.
9. How could you apply this passage to your own life? to our church?

Next Steps

- **Love Jesus:** Read ahead for next Sunday - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.
- **Connect with Others:** Use this sermon as a reason to reconnect with someone you have argued with.
- **Serve the World:** Take Spiritual Gift Assessment to learn how God has gifted you. (www.fmcrosenberg.org/serve)
- **Reach the Lost:** Spend time with someone that you are divided from.

1:1-2

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours

1:9

God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1:17

For 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.