

CONFLICT AND DIVISION

1 Corinthians 1.10-17

DIVISIONS IN THE CHURCH

1 Corinthians 1.10-17

The problem in Corinth is not expressly known. It was probably *not* theological since Paul spoke highly of Apollos and their partnership, and all three would see themselves as united in Christ. It seems that it was secondary issues, somehow maybe revolving around baptism or a favoritism based on being in the “in crowd” of certain teachers. Though there *are* times when division is good (1 Corinthians 5, 11.19, Titus 3.10, Matthew 10.34-39), this is clearly not one of those times.

HOW DIVISIONS START

James 4.1-3, 10-11

Division with others starts in our own hearts. Something is bothering you, something you want is not there, or something or someone is not meeting your expectations. You have been disappointed, and so your inner lawyer comes out.

**All sin, in its fundamental form, is anti-social.
All sin, in its fundamental form, is divisive.**

Five Pebbles of Wisdom for approaching Conflict:

1. Remember that we are not battling flesh and blood. Whatever was done against you is ultimately, not about you. It is about an enemy who wants to divide you from your God and from others. **Ephesians 6.12**
2. Sometimes you need to forgive in your heart, overlook a matter, and move on. **1 Peter 4.8 // Proverbs 17.9**
3. Consider the person’s life circumstances. **1 Corinthians 13.4-7**
4. Be face to face when possible. Humans are people with feelings and emotions, wired for touch, tone, and affection. We aren’t devices.
5. Sometimes “just being real” is “just being selfish.” Not every issue or slight or irritation needs to be addressed. Life (and sanctification) is ran as a marathon, not a sprint.

REPAIRING DIVISION

1 Corinthians 1.13

Remember that everyone will fail you, and no one has been crucified for you. We should aim to “outdo one another in showing honor (**Romans 12.10**). Christ is committed to you, and is committed to an at times unfaithful, unloving, uncommitted church. And He calls us to do the same.

To become more like Christ, we must be committed to sinful, hurtful, disappointing people who will let us down and not live up to our expectations and not meet our needs.

NOTES:

Recommended Resources:

When You Bite and Devour: by Alexander Strauch
War of Words: by Paul Tripp
What Did You Expect?: by Paul Tripp

This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

Isaiah 43:1

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We’d love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens’ ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **1 Corinthians 1.10-17**. What stands out to you in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday? _____

Read **James 4.1-3, and 10-11**. What is the root cause of divisions in life? _____

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Verse 13 has a little kernel of the Gospel in it. How does this little truth free you from the temptation of gossip, division, slander, and bitterness? _____

Repent and Confess

In the sermon notes it says "All sin, in its fundamental form, is anti-social." What do you think about that insight? Now read **Ephesians 6.12, 1 Peter 4.8, Proverbs 17.9, and 1 Corinthians 13.4-7**. From the sermon or these verses, is there any attitude or action that you need to confess and repent of, or something you need to grow in?

Please be careful not to gossip when sharing about circumstances that you have been hurt by or need help in. Do your best to be speak in a way to get the help you need but also protect others.

Ask for Provision

In light of these passages, what do you need to ask for from the Lord? Do you need wisdom for a certain division, or growth in resolving conflict in general? _____

Your Life Mission

Many conflicts can't be resolved in one phone call or coffee date. But This week (and beyond), make it a priority to examine your heart and the divisions in your life. How can you make it your mission to be a peace maker and a bridge builder for the sake of Christ and His glory?

One area of common division is between believers and non-believing friends. What relationships will you be encountering in the coming week or two that you would like prayer for, that you would be a bridge builder and ambassador for Christ?

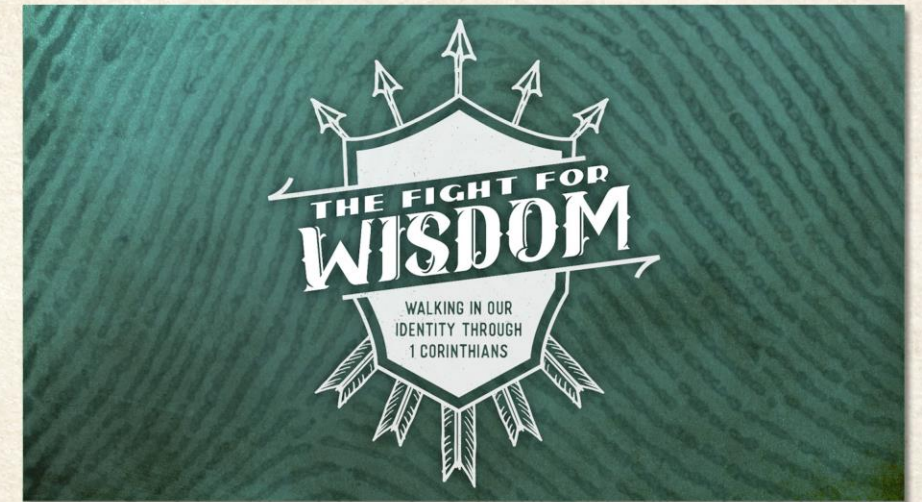
End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



LIFE MISSION

C H U R C H

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



CONFLICT AND DIVISION

1 Corinthians 1:10-17 // February 25, 2018

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

