## **Divisions in the Church - 1 Corinthians 1:10-17**

Topics: Arguments, Church, Disagreements, Divisions, Follow, Gospel, Power, Quarrels, Unity

### Open It

- 1. Over what matters do families often argue?
- 2. When was a time you hurt someone because you were forced to take sides?
- \* 3. When was a time you helped two people settle a dispute?

#### **Explore It**

- 4. On what basis did Paul appeal to the Corinthian believers? (1:10)
- \* 5. Why did Paul ask the Corinthians to agree with one another? (1:10)
- 6. What kind of action did the Corinthian church need to take? (1:10-17)
- \* 7. What specific problem were the Corinthian Christians having? (1:11-12)
  - 8. How was Paul a part of the Corinthians' problems? (1:13-17)
  - 9. How did baptism cause division in the Corinthian church? (1:13-17)
  - 10. What can result from preaching the gospel with "words of human wisdom"? (1:17)
  - 11. What did Christ enable Paul to do? (1:17)
  - 12. What danger is there in dividing a church? (1:17)
- \* 13. What danger was Paul trying to avoid? (1:17)
  - 14. What's wrong with preaching the gospel with "words of human wisdom"? (1:17)

#### Get It

- 15. How did Paul show his concern for the Corinthians?
- 16. What difference does local church unity make?
- 17. What does it mean for Christians to be "perfectly united in mind and thought"?
- 18. Why is it important for Christians to be united?
- 19. How should we respond to arguments among Christians today?
- 20. What church divisions have you known or heard about?
- 21. What has been the outcome in church splits of which you are aware?
- 22. How can division among Christians empty Christ's message of its power?
- 23. What witness does a unified church give to a lost world?
- 24. What social and cultural forces present the greatest threat to the unity of Christ's church today?
- \* 25. How can Christians avoid becoming distracted by petty disagreements?
- \* 26. What can your church do to build unity and guard against division?
  - 27. What practices can help us be more united with other Christians?

# **Apply It**

- \* 28. What is the first step you could take to heal a damaged relationship with another Christian?
  - 29. How could you help your church leaders build the unity of your congregation?