



Unit 32, Session 3

The Church Divided

1 Corinthians 1–6

Story Point: The gospel unites all kinds of people in love.

Paul wrote a letter to the church at Corinth. The believers there were facing problems. One problem was that the church was divided. The people did not always get along or agree about what was most important.

Paul wanted this to stop. “Is Christ divided?” Paul asked. Of course not. Jesus came to bring people together as one body—brothers and sisters in God’s family.

What is most important is the gospel. Paul said, “The word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God to us who are being saved.”

Paul also reminded the church that believers cannot boast about themselves or other people; no human is as wise or powerful as God. When Paul preached, he didn’t use fancy words so that people would think he

was smart. He simply shared the good news about Jesus. Everyone in the church is united around Jesus, who died on the cross for our sins. He is God’s wisdom and power. When we remember the gospel, we can live in unity with others.

Paul wrote his letter to help the believers in Corinth. He told them many things about how to follow Jesus. Believers should live in such a way that people see them and know they belong to Jesus.

Christ Connection: Paul told the believers in the Corinthian church to come together because of the gospel. He reminded them that Jesus saves sinners. Because of Jesus and what He has done, believers can humbly come together as one body.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Think of parts and put them together to design a new machine below. What does it do?

- What does this story teach us about God?

- What problem did the Corinthian church face?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul told the believers in the Corinthian church to come together because of the gospel. He reminded them that Jesus saves sinners. Because of Jesus and what He has done, believers can humbly come together as one body.



APPLY the Story

- Find Matthew 28:19-20 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, asking Jesus to unite us so that we can show His love to the world around us.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1:12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 16:17-18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 12:13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Titus 3:9-11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 4:3-6 |