

Family Theme | **Unity in the Church**    Date | **January 26, 2025**

Study Text | **1 Corinthians 1:10–17; 3:1–23**

**Read the Word:** 1 Corinthians 1:10–17; 3:1–23

**Disciple Your Family:** Discuss with family members how to maintain good relationships at home and at church instead of dividing over personal preferences.

Discuss the following Key Truths and how to apply them to life. Use the questions to spark discussion.

 **Key Truth: Knowing Christ Should Bring Unity (1 Corinthians 1:10–17)**

**APPLY:** Knowing and following Christ are the basis for unity in the Church. Christians should focus on knowing and following Christ rather than on disputable matters that highlight our differences.

- *What are some examples of personal preferences that might cause division among us?*
- *Why do we sometimes view people in our own churches or denominations as “enemies”?*

**APPLY:** Set aside selfishness and personal preferences for the sake of the gospel and God’s glory.

- *What causes us to gravitate toward others who are like us? What potential challenges can this create?*
- *How can personal pride destroy unity?*

 **Key Truth: Unity Requires Humility (1 Corinthians 3:1–9)**

**APPLY:** Humility is a mark of spiritual maturity. Pride, jealousy, and strife are characteristics of immaturity.

- *What can help us grow in spiritual maturity?*

**APPLY:** Allow the Holy Spirit to guide your heart (feelings and emotions), mind (attitudes and opinions), and soul (the will = your choices) rather than allowing your sinful nature to dictate your behavior.

- *Why does our sinful nature push us toward divisiveness? How can we grow in humility and unity instead?*

**APPLY:** Resist the urge to elevate yourself and others based upon the service you render or the fruit produced by that service.

- *We still deal with celebrity culture in modern-day Christianity. In what ways do we allow worldly measures to dictate our approach to success and honor among believers?*
- *It’s possible a Christian is given a place of prominence or popularity despite the person having no desire for those things. How should Christians respond if they find themselves in those types of positions?*

 **Key Truth: Unity Requires Common Purpose (1 Corinthians 3:10–23)**

**APPLY:** We are to have unity around the purpose of building God’s kingdom on the foundation of Christ. We do this by making disciples of all people groups.

- *How does working together to build God’s kingdom foster unity?*

**APPLY:** Love, follow, and serve God knowing our decisions and works will be tested by fire.

**APPLY:** Make every effort to maintain harmony with other believers.

- *It's possible that some in the church could be divisive. How should we approach Christians who cause division?*
- *What should we do if we realize we are a divisive Christian? What signs might point to that?*

**APPLY:** Be faithful to God and seek first His kingdom and glory.

- *What does it look like for us to seek first God's kingdom and glory?*

**Build a Foundation:** Discussion questions for elementary students.

- What was the arguing and dividedness among the believers in Corinth doing to their testimony?
- How can personal pride affect unity with other believers?
- What are ways the world tries to keep believers from having unity?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: *Psalm 46:1*



### **Discuss This Week's Building Block:**

The word *epistle* means *letter*. In the New Testament it refers to letters the apostles wrote to churches or individuals.

### **Everyday Extras:**

Think of a simple activity for your family to do together (play a board game, make cards to give out, do a craft, etc.). Give each child different directions so that each one is working against another. Stop the activity and then give just one direction for all to do. Afterwards, talk about which was easier and more effective. Relate it to the importance of unity with other believers in sharing the gospel.

### **Preschool Highlights:**

Today your child learned Jesus gave us an example of kindness when He met the Samaritan woman at the well. He was kind to her when no one else was. Because of His kindness, she chose to follow Jesus and led many others to know Him too. He wants us to be kind to others. **I Can Be More Like Jesus** and show kindness in my words and actions.