

A Beautiful Mess: Week 4

May 26, 2019

Scriptures: 1 Cor. 3-4; Eph. 4:11-16; 2 Pet. 1:5-8; John 15:1-8

Bottom Line: Spiritual growth doesn't just happen.

The Corinthian Church was resisting the impulse to grow up.

Paul's Categories of People

The **spiritual person** has the Holy Spirit, the mind of Christ, and sees the world through a spiritual lens. The **non-spiritual person** doesn't have the Holy Spirit, and sees God's ways as foolishness. The **Corinthians**, are spiritual people who act like non-spiritual people. They are spiritual babies.

Ways to Grow

Pursuing Unity

- Not just not dividing, but united in purpose, knowledge and faith in Christ

Developing Personal Character

- Making God's characteristics your own

Stay Connected to Jesus

- Building your relationship with Jesus

Next Steps/Measuring Sticks

How are your relationships with others?

Are you experiencing any resistance?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Appetizer

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. When you were a kid, what sorts of things did you look forward to about being older?

Entree

1. Read **1 Corinthians 3:1-4**.
2. If Paul stopped in to see your group, would do you think his impression would be?
3. Of the three avenues of spiritual growth mentioned on Sunday, which of those resonated with you most? How do you understand this to help you grow spiritually?
4. Take some time to measure yourselves by the measuring sticks provided. How old are you spiritually?

Dessert

Break into groups of 3-5 and discuss the following questions together.

1. What steps can you take this week to continue growing in your faith?
2. How can this group help you do that?

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