

# A Beautiful Mess: Week 1

May 05, 2019

**Scriptures:** 1 Cor. 1:1-17; John 13:4-35; 17:20-21

**Bottom Line:** The Church is called to unity, and that unity displays Jesus Christ

## The Corinthian Church

This church is messed up!

- Division, sexual sins, chaotic gatherings, incorrect theology
- The original "sin city"

## 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Our position in Jesus . . .

- God has graciously given us everything we need
- Community is essential - don't be a detached arm!

## 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 - Unity

### The Call to Unity

- Jesus prays for it and commands it, the world judges us by it

### Unity is NOT . . .

- Uniformity
- Avoiding Issues
- Overlooking sin

### Unity IS . . .

- Showing the grace of God
- Essential vs. important
- Honours diversity

### To Think About

- God is faithful to see you through whatever you're facing
- Are you really connected to the Church? We need you.

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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. Have you experienced a falling out or division over something that wasn't actually that important? What happened?

### Entree

1. Read **Ephesians 4:1-5**
  - a. What kind of attitude and actions are needed to maintain unity? Which of these is the hardest for you to do?
2. In your experience, what are the things that cause the most division in the Church? Which of these things are worth dividing over, and which are not?
3. Where have you had to set aside personal preference in the church to pursue unity, or go where God was already at work?

### Dessert

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

1. How can your small group promote unity in WMBC or the Church in Winkler?
2. Come back together as a group and share your ideas! Over the next month, commit to actually doing one of these things!

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