Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. April 14, 2019

 **A Church Divided**

1 Corinthians 1:1-17

**Key Truth:** Church division is a result of focusing on things that are less important and failing to focus on the gospel of Jesus Christ which is most important thing that unites us.

**The City Of Corinth:**

1. They were financially prosperous.

2. They were very religious.

3. They were morally corrupt.

**The Church Of Corinth:**

1. Was dealing with major divisions and immaturity.

2. They were spiritually gifted by God.

3. They were a mess yet blessed by God.

4. They had been discipled by one of the greatest spiritual

 teachers in the history of Christianity.

**What Real Unity Looks Like:**

1. It’s not uniformity.

2. It doesn’t overlook sin.

3. It extends grace to everyone.

4. It celebrates the diversity of spiritual gifts.

5. It’s purpose driven not celebrity pastor driven.

6. Jesus Christ alone is the center of the movement.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Pray that our church would be marked by a focus on Christ alone and unified to take the gospel to our community.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

When it comes to the silly things Christians fight over, people are tempted to set themselves up as “spiritual watch dogs” (checking up on other people’s behavior) or “pit bulls” (not letting go of a pet belief). If you’ve ever experienced someone playing one of these roles in your life, what happened in that situation and how did you respond/feel?

As you look at your own life, can you think of times when you’ve made the mistake of playing either of these roles in other people’s lives?

What insights do you find in Matthew 7:1-5 on this subject?

Read Ephesians 4:1-16: As you look at your list, are there any of these attitudes or actions that you need to work on or are lacking in your life?

How does Ephesians 4:7-13 express the idea that unity can and does include a whole lot of diversity?

Looking back at 1 Corinthians 1:4-9, how does the truth of God’s grace and work in your life affect you on a daily basis? Does it truly motivate you to share the gospel with others? If not, why do you think that is?

How can we help one another keep Christ as the center in our personal lives this week? What are some practical ways we can each focus our thoughts and attitudes more on Jesus?