

**August 16, 2020**  
**I Corinthians 1:10-17**  
**Dissension, Deal With It**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

1. In this city filled with philosophers and rhetoricians Paul has one message, the gospel of Jesus Christ. In these first ten verses Paul has used the name of Jesus no less than ten times! There is a lesson in that for us. D. K. Lowery wrote, "Paul's primary charge was to preach the gospel (9:16) not with words of human wisdom. Brilliantly persuasive eloquence may win a person's mind but not his heart, whereas the unadorned words of the gospel, though seemingly foolish by human standards, are made effective by the Spirit of God."
2. Those from the household of Chloe acted properly as they called out sin within the church and were not afraid to attach their names to the accusation. Warren Wiersbe wrote, "We do not know who the people were who belonged to "the house of Chloe," but we commend them for their courage and devotion. They did not try to hide the problems. They were burdened about them; they went to the right person with them; and they were not afraid to be mentioned by Paul. This was not the kind of "cloak and dagger" affair that we often see in churches—activities that usually make the problem worse and not better."
3. Someone wrote the following about the word, Divisions = *schismata* for us this word is schism. When church members tend to line up with teachers and leaders with whom they agree, they soon are like the Corinthians. Christians are individuals and unique, but doctrine is not, doctrine is doctrine and it is the glue of unity of an agreed group of people. Ego has no place, only the will of God. Unity glorifies God. Unity will always bless a congregation and be a joy to its leaders too. We keep unity by not insisting on our own way, by avoiding squabbles and bickering, and by putting the interest of our Lord and of His people above all else.

APPLICATION ON BACK

**APPLICATION:**

Christians are to love the Lord and love others. Within the church divisions may arise. We are given, in this pericope a great example by those of the household of Chloe. They loved the Lord and His church too much to sit idly by and allow divisions among the brethren to go unchecked. They went to the "proper" person, in this case the apostle Paul, and openly declared what was going on. When we see sin in the church we are to do no less, go to the leaders and call the sin out, and do so openly. Do not attempt this in some anonymous way. This may be difficult but it is the right thing to do. To call out sin among the brethren may bring repentance, healing, and unity to the church. Albeit difficult, this is an act of love for the Lord's church and brings honor to His name.