



11.27.11/ 1 Corinthians 1:10-11  
Caring for the Church and One Another

**Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-11**

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

**Summarize the Passage**

In today's Scripture passage, Paul is speaking to the church of Corinth. God's Church (not just the one in Ephesus but all people all over the earth who believe in Jesus) is extremely valuable because through His people, God spreads the Good News to the ends of the earth. Because the Church shows people what God is like, God wants us it to be a place where people are unified!

**Discussion**

Think of a time when you had a disagreement with your brother or sister, or even a close friend. Do you remember feeling (for the short time you were upset with each other) that the anger or sadness in your heart made it hard to love that person?

**Questions**

1. Why is the church important to God and to us? *Jesus instructed us to spread the Good News of His life, death and resurrection to all people. And the main way God has allowed this to happen is through the church! Our families need it, our communities need it, the lost around us need it and the world as a whole needs it. It's a place where we can learn about and worship God, where we can be cared for, and where we can meet the needs of other people. The Bible also tells us that the Church is Jesus' bride, and He loves His bride and wants the best for her (for the Church)!*
2. Take a moment to remember how the anger or sadness in your heart made it hard to love someone when you were having a disagreement with them. How do you think God wants us to handle our disagreements? *God knows that we will not always get along with each other, and it's ok to have disagreements, but we should NEVER stop loving another, even when we disagree. We should be willing to forgive and to place others before ourselves. We should not let petty differences break up friendships and certainly not the church. God loves to unify us, even when we disagree!*

**Reflection/Prayer**

God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross and come back to life, and when He did this, our sin was destroyed! This means that when we believe in Jesus, we can be UNITED with God! God loves to unite us with Himself, and He loves to unite US with one another. In John 17:22-23, Jesus prayed to God the Father:

"The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."

Heavenly Father, thank you for using the Church to spread your Good News. Thank you for providing your Church, people who believe in You, who can teach me more about You, show me how to worship You, and help me become more like You. Please unify all the people in your Church. Help us to love one another and to show one another your grace and mercy. We pray that You will draw each of us close to You. When we have disagreements with others, help us to be humble and to act in love just like Jesus does. Amen.