

Christ, Culture, & The Cross

Diverse, Unified, And Unleashed

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

The Situation In Corinth:

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be **no divisions** among you, but that you be **perfectly united** in mind and thought. (1 Corinthians 1:10)

One Spirit, One Body

All these are the work of **one and the same Spirit**, and **he distributes** them to each one, just as he **determines**. (1 Corinthians 12:11)

Two Essential Characteristics of "The Body":

- _____

- _____

Becoming The Church

Following The Spirit's Leadership

Instead of going to church, they are eager to be the church . . . Instead of being passive observers of an event, they are eager to be active contributors to a shared mission. (Scott Sauls, *Jesus Outside The Lines*)

1. _____

Throughout the Scriptures, we see God place people in seemingly impossible situations. He then moves miraculously to display His power . . . As our divisions increase and deepen, we find ourselves again in a situation that requires a miracle. (Francis Chan, *Until Unity*)

⇒ One-On-One With Jesus: _____

2. _____

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. . . . Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23, 25)

⇒ One-On-One With Jesus: _____

3. _____

So, instead of giving up on them, [Paul] doubles down on his involvement with them. Instead of shunning and shaming them, he speaks to them as his beloved brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters in the faith. He names them not according to their failures but according to their redemptive status, using words like "saints" and "sanctified." He thanks God always for them and reminds them that Jesus will sustain them until the end. Though they are messed up now, Jesus has a plan to transform them into people who are glorious and guiltless. Paul looks at the broken local church and envisions sainthood . . . Paul thinks about the church in the same way that Jesus does. He thinks about the church as family. (Scott Sauls, *Jesus Outside The Lines*)

⇒ One-On-One With Jesus: _____