



## “Letters to the Corinthians” Study Notes

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### Lesson 2: Ungodly Divisions

#### 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Read Philippians 1:15-18a. Paul describes two different motivations for preaching the Gospel here. What is Paul's concern in all of this? What is he NOT concerned with

Read Romans 16:17-19. What does Paul warn about here? How does that line up with 1 Corinthians 1:10-17? What does Paul say, here, is the motive of those who cause division?

Read Titus 3:9-11. Paul, writing under the direction of the Holy Spirit, explicitly says to divide from those causing division. Why do you think this is so serious?

Read 1 Timothy 1:3-5. What does Paul tell Timothy to charge “certain persons” with? What is the aim of this charge?

Read Titus 1:10-12. How does Paul describe those who are teaching false doctrine? What must be done about this? Again, why is this a big deal?

Read Jude 19-21. What warning did the apostles give? Who is it that is causing division? What should our focus be?

As you spend time in prayer today, consider that, while there is a time and a place for appropriate division (as we see from the above references), often, we are willing to divide over issues that are not appropriate for division. Ask God to help you to see, today, where you may have a self-imposed division based on preference or personality or any other inappropriate division. Ask God to help you to examine your heart and repent of any sin of preference or pride that may be causing those divisions.

While we are not called to be best friends with everyone, we are still the body of Christ and must not create walls within the body unnecessarily. Perhaps ask God if there is someone within your own local body of believers that He has been putting in your path to reach out to, but you have, for whatever reason, been avoiding taking that step. Ask Him to help you to be willing to tear down any inappropriate walls you may have built and to seek to unite instead of to continue in division.