

3. The Corinthian Church was divided into factions. They had strong opinions about who was right & who was wrong.

- *Why are Paul's words in vs 9 important before he begins addressing the divisions?*

4. *Looking at verses 11-12, what is at the root of the divisions?*

- *Who was Apollos? (Acts 18:24-19:1)*

5. There are still many factions around Christian leaders. We tend to glorify humans. *To combat this, why does he talk about the cross?*

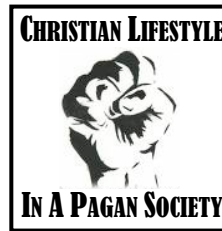
#### TAKING IT HOME

1. What positive contribution has a particulate Christian group made in your life?

2. Has that strength ever been the cause of you doubting the "worth" of Christians coming from other traditions that don't exhibit that strength as much?

3. Who has been a "hero" of the faith for you?

- What from his/her life do you want to build into your life?



1 CORINTHIANS sermon series  
Sermon #1  
Corinthians 1:1-17

Rev. Bill Impey  
*Grace* ...a community church  
January 17, 2010

## Dealing with Divisions

*In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets  
at many times and in various ways,  
but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.  
Hebrews 1:1-2*

### 3 Spiritual Realities (1-9)

- **You have been called .**

*sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy (2)*

Church (ekklesia) = "called-out ones"

- **You have been given grace .**

*Grace and peace to you from God (3)*

- You have been given **certainty** .

*He will keep you strong (6)*

**Divisions among Christians is a concern (10-17)**

**If we exalt Christian leaders, and not the gospel,  
then we have robbed the cross of its message.**

**ONGOING SERMON CHALLENGE**

*Over the next 3 Sundays greet some people!*

## **Community Group Homework**

For the week of January 17, 2010

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### **Today we begin discussing 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians has tremendous value because the hearts of people have not changed, and neither have the principles by which God works. Paul will deal with practical problems by giving us strong principles and guidelines we can measure our lives by, and deal with many of the difficulties you are currently facing.

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### **QUICK REVIEW**

Looking back over your sermon notes, was there any particular point or passage of Scripture that most challenged, confused or caught your attention?

- *Share it with your group.*

### **GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

Who was your favorite teacher & why?

Radio & TV bring Christian leaders, Pastors, and teachers into our homes. We (or others) have a tendency to build factions around these leaders.

- *What leader or group do you think of as you read this?*

### **DIGGING DEEPER**

1. *In verse 1, why does Paul stress that he is an Apostle?*
2. *Read verses 5-7. Besides grace, what else did the Corinthian believers receive?*