

Divisions Arise From Carnality

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

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I. Babes in Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:1-2

"...But now he explained that there are two kinds of saved people: mature and _____ (carnal)." (Wiersbe)

- Some believers are immature because they have only been saved a short time; others begin to backslide, and still others _____ their relationship with Christ; not studying the Word or praying.

Christians who go back to being babies are exposed because they are _____ in the Word of righteousness. **Hebrews 5:13**

II. Still carnal. 1 Corinthians 3:3-4

The problems this Church was having with favoritism among leadership, revealed there was actually something wrong in their _____ relationships with God.

1. Immature believers' lack of _____ with other believers.
2. Immature believers do not adhere to _____ doctrine.
3. Immature believers have a lack of _____ for others.
4. Immature believers are _____ governed, and lack humility.

III. God's garden of grace. 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

In the parable of the seed in **Matthew 13**, the message was the _____ each time, but there are 4 different types of soil (hearts).

1. **The wayside** was a well traveled road or a walking path.
2. **Stony places** had very _____ soil on top of a rocky underlayment.
3. **Among** _____ describes good soil that has a bramble bush, brier, or a thorny plant.
4. **Good ground** describes fertile soil free from any weeds growing in it. A _____ crop grows in the **good ground**.

1 Corinthians 3:6 teaches us that no matter what job or ministry the Lord has given to _____; all are equally important as the Lord allows us a part in fulfilling His purposes and plan.

IV. Practical Application.

We are God's garden of Grace; since we belong to Jesus, we are fully redeemed, forgiven, and He wants us to live in _____.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. If the church were like your natural family, what would be some of its characteristics? (Wiersbe)
2. How is the church like a family? A field? A temple? What are some marks of spiritual maturity? (Wiersbe)
3. Read **1 Corinthians 3:1-4**. What did Paul mean when he said that the Corinthians were fleshly? (Wiersbe)
4. Discuss the four telltale signs of immaturity within point II. of the sermon note sheet.
Ephesians 4:11-16, Philippians 2:4-8, Hebrews 5:14
5. Read **Matthew 13:3-8**. What is the meaning of the parable about the Sower and the seed? What is the seed?
Matthew 13:18-23, Mark 4:14-20, Luke 8:11-15
6. Discuss the first 4 soil types in **Matthew 13:3-8** and **18-22**. How can we help water and nourish people who sprout and start to grow in their spiritual life?
Hebrews 10:25, Galatians 6:2, Philippians 2:4, Romans 12:13, Philippians 4:9
7. Discuss the practical application of the sermon.
Psalms 133:1, John 13:35, Galatians 5:16, James 4:7-10, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20