

Divisions Arise From Carnality

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

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09/12/21

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*