



Many churchgoers secretly (or not-so-secretly) have a “church crush”—a church they admire from afar, thinking that church must be better than theirs. This series explores Paul’s words to the Corinthians, showing that every church has struggles, but the real joy comes from rooted commitment, reconciliation, belief, and mission.

The Church You Have –May 4, 2025

1. The Church You Have Needs Spiritual Maturity: Read 1 Corinthians 1:10–13. Why do you think Paul begins this letter with a plea for unity? What do these verses reveal about the connection between spiritual maturity and the way we handle differences in church?

2. Immaturity Divides, Maturity Builds: Read 1 Corinthians 1:13. What do Paul’s rhetorical questions suggest about the seriousness of division in the church? How can we personally contribute to unity rather than division?

3. The Church You Have Will Always Challenge Your Preferences: Read 1 Corinthians 1:14–17. What do you think Paul means when he says he was sent to preach “not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power”? How might our personal preferences get in the way of truly hearing and responding to the gospel?

4. What Is God Chipping Away in You? Reflecting on the Michelangelo illustration, what are some preferences or comforts you’ve clung to in church? What might God be patiently chipping away in your heart right now so that Christ can be more fully formed in you?

5. The Church You Have Finds Unity in Christ Alone: Read 1 Corinthians 3:1–4. Why does Paul describe the Corinthians as “mere infants in Christ”? How do jealousy and comparison reveal where we’ve rooted our identity—and how can re-centering on Christ change that?

6. Unity Doesn’t Mean Uniformity: Read 1 Corinthians 3:4. In what ways can our church celebrate diversity while staying united in Christ? How have you personally experienced the beauty of being different but still one in Jesus?

7. The Church You Have Is God’s Work, Not Yours: Read 1 Corinthians 3:5–7. What does it mean to faithfully “plant” or “water” in the church without trying to control outcomes? How can this mindset free us to serve with joy, patience, and trust in God’s timing?