



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.

### **Messy but Worth It –May 11, 2025**

**Icebreaker:** What’s a minor disagreement you’ve had—at home, work, or with a friend—that still makes you smile when you think about it?

**1. Messy but Worth It Because Conflict Grows Us in Grace-** *Read 1 Corinthians 6:1.* Why do you think Paul was so alarmed that believers were taking each other to court? What does this verse reveal about how we should view conflict within the church?

**2. Grace Meets Us in the Tension.** - *See Matthew 18:15 and Romans 12:18.* Jesus calls us to go directly to someone who sins against us, and Paul says to live at peace "as far as it depends on you." What would it look like for you to take personal responsibility in a current or past conflict?

**3. Avoiding Conflict Isn’t the Answer** - Reflecting on the story about the quiet tension in the marriage, how have you seen unresolved, unspoken conflict grow into something bigger? What are the risks of pretending everything is fine?

**4. Messy but Worth It Because Our Identity Changes Everything** - *Read 1 Corinthians 6:2–3.* Paul reminds the Corinthians of who they are in Christ. How does remembering your identity as part of God’s people change the way you approach disagreements?

**5. Called to Unity, Not Uniformity** - *See 1 Corinthians 6:5–6.* How can remembering our shared identity in Christ help us pursue unity when we have different backgrounds, opinions, or preferences?

**6. Messy but Worth It Because Surrender Reflects Jesus** - *Read 1 Corinthians 6:7 and Philippians 2:7–8.* What does it mean to "rather be wronged" in real life? How does Jesus' willingness to surrender shape your view of winning, fairness, and forgiveness?

**7. Truth with Love** - *See 1 Corinthians 13:1–5.* How do we hold to truth without losing love? How do Paul’s words about love reshape how we speak and act when we disagree?