

KIDTOWN GUIDE

1st-5th Grades

DATE: 4/18/21

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 6

LESSON: The Church Divided



INTRO

Parents say to your kid(s) - Last week we learned about one of Jesus' followers named Paul and how he went on a journey telling people the good news about Jesus. On that journey, Paul helped start churches in different cities. One of them was in a city called Corinth. Today we're going to learn about a letter Paul wrote to the church in Corinth when they had kind of forgotten what was important.

Would You Rather? - Kids love to learn in concrete ways. This activity is a simple object lesson to help your kids interact with the Bible story they're about to learn. Have kids stand in the middle of the room. Designate one side of the room as the first option, and the other side of the room as the second option. Ask a would you rather question (i.e. *Would you rather go to the beach or the mountains? Would you rather eat pizza or chicken nuggets?*) and have kids go to the side that they would choose.

Say - We don't all have the same opinions about everything, and it's okay that we like different things. It's okay for us to disagree about some things, but as Christians we need to make sure we are always unified about Jesus. Today we're going to talk about a church who had lost their unity.



LESSON - THE CHURCH DIVIDED

Watch the Gospel Project Bible video: [The Church Divided](#)

Story Point #1: (Kids repeat!)

The church in Corinth was becoming divided! (Kids repeat!)

Paul started a church in a city called Corinth and it was great at first...but a few years later things were not so great. The people were arguing about stuff all the time! They argued about which leader was the best, who had the most wisdom, who was the most important. In fact, they were spending so much time arguing about themselves that they were hardly spending any time talking about who? Jesus! So Paul wrote them a letter to help them remember what (and who!) was really important.

Story Point #2: (Kids repeat!)

Paul reminded the church to be united. (Kids repeat!)

Paul reminded the church in Corinth that Jesus came to bring people together into one big family. They didn't need to waste time arguing about which of them were the wisest or the most important...they needed to be talking about how wise and powerful and important Jesus is! And how He did the most important, amazing thing ever when he paid for all of our sin on the cross. It was silly for them to fight over who was the best, because none of them were. Who is really the most important? Jesus!

Story Point #3: (Kids repeat!)

Paul told them not to brag about their leaders or themselves. (Kids repeat!)

Paul wanted to help the church in Corinth understand that they were spending too much time thinking about themselves. And not enough time thinking about who? Jesus! He wanted them to remember that they weren't strong enough or powerful

enough to save themselves from sin. They needed Jesus' power and love to save them in the first place, and they needed Jesus' power and love to live the kind of lives He wanted them to live.

Christ Connection! (Kids repeat!)

Jesus unites believers because He is our leader who gives us everything we need to follow Him! (kids repeat)

What kind of lives do you think Jesus wants us to live? Lives full of love and grace and kindness and patience and wisdom and serving others. Where does all that stuff come from? From Him! When Jesus died on the cross, He freed us from sin's power over us. That means we don't have to be selfish and always fighting anymore; now Jesus fills us with the power to be like Him instead. Now we can love and serve each other, forgive each other, and be at peace with each other.

RESPONSE



Sing: [I am With You Always](#) (Key Passage Song)
[Psalm 40:5](#)

Pray: Jesus, thank you for being our good leader. Thank you that we can trust you to lead us in the right direction. Thank you for filling us up with everything we need. Help us to remember that You are the most important!

Discuss:

- What stood out to you from this story? *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- What city was the church we talked about today in? *Corinth*
- Who helped start that church? *Paul*
- What kinds of things were the people in the church arguing about? *Who was the best leader, who was the wisest, who was the most important, etc.*
- What did Paul want them to remember? *That Jesus is the most important*
- When do you feel/act like you are the most important? How does remembering what Jesus did for us help us do things the way He would instead?
- Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?
 - *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know but will try to find out.*
 - *If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us at kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com.*



BONUS ACTIVITIES

Coloring Sheet - [Printable Coloring Sheet](#)

Parent Share - Confess to your kids a time when you were more focused on yourself and what you thought, instead of focusing on Jesus and what He wanted. Try to help them see how following yourself instead of God made things worse.

Rhyme Time - Choose a word to start with, for example, cat. Take turns thinking of words that rhyme with cat (at, bat, fat, rat, chat, etc). Each person can only do one word at a time. See how many times you can go around before you all run out of words that rhyme. If you can't think of a real word that rhymes, you can do a made up word, but you have to come up with a made up definition to match it!