Groups Discussion Guide Sermon: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

**Pastor David Uth** 

The Church United: Week 6

Passage: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 - "But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, 3 for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? 4 For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8 He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

## **Introduction -** 1 Corinthians Week 5 Recap:

Last week Pastor David taught from 1 Corinthians chapter 2 explaining the difference between Christians and non-believers. Our faith is anchored in the power of God, fed by the Holy Spirit, and reveals the mind of Christ. He challenged us to surrender all to the Lord because His wisdom is timeless and never fails. This week, He continues with 1 Corinthians chapter 3 as we look at the difference between Christians who are spiritual and those who are worldly.

**Instructions:** This discussion guide serves as a conversation starter for your small group. Every week we will feature an icebreaker question in the **Getting Started** section. Your main discussion will be centered around the **Big Idea** section where you will read the key passage and answer suggested questions based on the sermon. Feel free to use some or all of these questions or add your own. Finally, in the **My Life** section we will give you a couple of ways to practically apply what we have learned together and a closing suggested prayer to pray.

Getting Started: What is your favorite comfort food or go-to restaurant when your friends or family comes to town?

## Big Idea:

Read 1 Corinthians 3 - What is the overall message of this chapter? Does it sound familiar to you? Why is it important that Paul keep going back to this issue in the church? What is at stake here?

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-4 - When Paul first arrived in Corinth what was true of them? What is true now? Is there evidence of this in their lives?

Cross Reference: Read Hebrews 5:11-14 - the Corinthians weren't the only ones having trouble maturity. What does the writer of Hebrews say those that are immature? How can we grow up in our faith?

Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 - What point is Paul making here? How does Paul identify him and Apollos? Where does true growth come from and what part do servants of God play?

Cross Reference: Read Luke 8: 4-15 - The Parable of the Sower - What is the seed? How does it bear fruit in our lives?

**My Life:** As believers and followers of Jesus Christ we should be consistently growing in our faith. Is there an area of your spiritual life that you would like to see progress? What step can you take this week towards growth in that area? How can we come alongside each other as we all seek to grow more like Jesus?

**Conclusion:** Lord, thank you for those leaders in our lives who have taught us the Word of God and showed us the way to walk in the Spirit. Help us to make consistent progress in walks with you so that we look and act more like Jesus every single day.