

Building Unity Going Deep, part one 1 Corinthians 1

"I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought....¹² What I mean is this: One of you says, 'I follow Paul'; another, 'I follow Apollos'; another, 'I follow Cephas'; still another, 'I follow Christ."¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?" 1 Corinthians 1:10,12-13 (NIV)

The things that divide us usually aren't ______ issues. The two most divisive things are ______ and _____.

"Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents." Romans 1:29-30 (NLT)

Gossip is sharing information or opinions that don't ______ to be shared in order to make the teller look ______ by making others look

"He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, Therefore do not associate with a gossip." NIV: "so avoid anyone who talks too much." Proverbs 20:19 (NASB)

"Don't spread gossip and rumors.... I am God." Leviticus 19:16 (Msg.)

Unity comes when we're focused on a common ______. Our goal is to

"What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow." 1 Corinthians 3:5-7 (NIV)

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3 (NIV)

"Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity." Colossians 3:14 (NASB)