

How to Maintain Harmony in the Church

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Unfortunately, too many have seen what can happen when people of a church get their eyes off the Lord and onto other things. People start focusing on other people, problems, and issues. Our purpose and calling takes a back-seat to the conflicts that arise and soon the power of the Spirit is missing. Let us learn a lesson from this church in the Bible that Paul wrote to, the Church at Corinth.

Read I Corinthians 1:10-17

1. Keep Our Focus on the Messiah – vs. 10

When we lose focus on Jesus:

- a. We get our eyes onto other people
- b. We get our eyes onto other problems
- c. We get our eyes onto other priorities

Review Hebrews 12:1-2

- Keep our focus on Jesus!

2. Keep Our Eyes on the Mission – vs. 13-17

Read Matthew 28:19-20

- The focus is on making disciples

3. Keep Our Focus on the Message

- Our message is Christ and Him crucified

Questions:

1. What were some of the problems in the Corinthian church at the time Paul wrote his letter? Can we see the same kinds of problems today? Why?
2. Recall Hebrews 12:1-2. What kinds of things in our lives today can easily “beset” us that we are to cast aside to run the race God has set before us? How can we keep our eyes fixed on Him?
3. If any church is not careful, what kinds of things can take priority over the mission?

Prayer: *“Father, thank you for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you that you have given us a family we call the church to encourage us, equip us, hold us accountable, and run the race together with us. I pray for my church at IBC, that you would help us, as members of this family, to keep the harmony of this place by keeping our focus on You, on our mission, and on our message. In Jesus’ name, amen!”*