



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, December 18, 2022 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

Identity and Unity, Part 2

1 Corinthians 3:1-9a

1. There is such a thing as a worldly Christian, but such a person does not act like a Christian. (1 Corinthians 3:1-4)



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Sermon Notes

2. The joy of growing together in God's field (1 Corinthians 3:5-9a)

Table Talk

- 1) Why couldn't Paul speak to the Corinthians as mature Christians? How does Paul use the words "natural" (sukikos), "spiritual" (pneumatikos), and "of the flesh" (sarkikos) in 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:4? What characterizes persons with these descriptions? Why has the idea of a "carnal" Christian been a popular idea? Evaluate that idea.
- 2) What kind of things are like the "milk" of the Christian life? What kind of things are like the solid food of the Christian life? What makes one ready for solid food? What is your diet like as a believer? (1 Corinthians 3:2)
- 3) What are some examples of "jealousy and strife" that can come to Christians? (1 Corinthians 3:3) How does Paul help the Corinthians face their own immaturity? (1 Corinthians 3:4) Why are church factions inconsistent with Christian maturity and true ministry? (1 Corinthians 3:5-7)
- 4) How are planters and waterers "one"? What is highly individual about each worker? In what ways are you a planter? In what ways are you a waterer? What do you think might be the proportion of planters to waterers at East White Oak? Is that a good proportion? (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)
- 5) What is individualistic in how God rewards? (see 1 Corinthians 3:8) What will be the standard of reward in verse 8? How does Paul characterize his team in verse 9? How does he characterize the church in verse 9? Why are these characterizations not individualistic in Christian ministry and in the church?