***Fillers, Filters, and Fakes:***

*How to Create Christ-Centered Community in a Culture Filled with Counterfeits*

*Part 1:* Dead-Center

***July 13, 2025***

**1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17**

10 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. 11 My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe’s household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 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?

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

**When \_\_\_\_\_ isn’t dead-center,**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is inevitable.**

*For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence,* ***lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power****.*

*A Christ-centered church is a unified church*

***THREE TRUTHS TO CENTER***

***YOUR FAITH AND YOUR CHURCH:***

**Church division is often a symptom of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*…there are quarrels among you…One of you says, “I follow Paul”; another, “I follow Apollos”; another, “I follow Cephas”; still another, “I follow Christ.”*

**John 15:5**  
“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

**the \_\_\_\_\_ unifies. \_\_\_\_\_ divides.**

*Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?*

**Proverbs 13:10a**  
“Where there is strife, there is pride…”

**A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ church is a**

**\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ church**

*…Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.*

**Psalm 133:1a, 3b**  
“*How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity...For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.*”

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13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

**When Jesus isn’t dead-center,**

**division is inevitable.**

*For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence,* ***lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power****.*

*A Christ-centered church is a unified church*

***THREE TRUTHS TO CENTER***

***YOUR FAITH AND YOUR CHURCH:***

**Church division is often a symptom of unhealthy attachment**

*…there are quarrels among you…One of you says, “I follow Paul”; another, “I follow Apollos”; another, “I follow Cephas”; still another, “I follow Christ.”*

**John 15:5**  
“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

**the cross unifies. pride divides.**

*Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?*

**Proverbs 13:10a**  
“Where there is strife, there is pride…”

**A unified church is a**

**vital, and growing church**

*…Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.*

**Psalm 133:1a, 3b**  
“*How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity...For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.*”