



In 1 Corinthians 11-14, Paul unpacks the seven ones of Ephesians in helping a church deal with a long list of potentially divisive issues. In this way, Paul shows us how to think and act as a church when issues threaten to cause friction in the body.

**These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.**

**Group Ice-Breaker:**

(1) Have you ever been part of a church split? If so, how do you think it could have been avoided?

**WORSHIP WARS?** Randy Harris says “the only thing holding some churches together is lack of communication!” Discuss how different viewpoints—stated or unstated—can create tension in a church. How might Paul address such tension?

**NAME THE ISSUES.** Read 1 Cor 14. List as many “issues” or “potential issues” you can find in this chapter.

**LOOK FOR THE ONES.** Read Ephesians 4:3-6. Circle the references to “God,” “Lord/Jesus”, and “Spirit” in 1 Cor 14. Circle the references to “body,” “faith,” and “baptized” in 1 Cor 12. Circle the reference to hope in 1 Cor 11:26. How is it helpful to ask “is this thing that threatens to divide us one of the 7 big rocks that define the Christian faith?” If it isn’t one of those, how might the way we talk about the issue be refined by focusing on these 7 markers?

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.** Read 1 Cor 14:13-25. Why is Paul concerned about how the assembly matters might affect outsiders? How can this be an important question to ask?

**PUT OTHER’S NEEDS OVER MY RIGHTS.** Read 1 Cor 14:3-5, 12, 17, 26. Why does Paul want the church to surrender their rights for the sake of “building up” the church? Read 1 Cor 14:28-30 & 34-35. Why do you think Paul thought that some people, at times, needed to be quiet in the assembly?

**TREAT THE BODY AS GOD INTENDED.** Read 1 Cor 11:17-20, 33-34 & 14:23. Why is the assembly (“when you come together”) different than when you are not in assembly? Read 1 Cor 14:19. What kind of things are not conducive to the nature of the body meeting together?

**DO WHAT LOVE REQUIRES.** Read 1 Cor 14:1. Love is practical, uniting, and requires you to give something. Apply this to worship matters that often divide.