

1 Corinthians...*To The Church* - Unity Part 3
A United Church for the World
1 Corinthians 3:3-17
Pastor Ryan White — September 3, 2017

The way one sees the church influences how one behaves and participates within it.

Three images to correct our vision:

- “You are God’s field..” (1 Corinthians 3:9)
- “God’s building...” (1 Corinthians 3:9)
- “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)

The church is not ours; it’s God’s. We cannot lay claim to it or redefine its aims and agenda. Jesus has set its mission and foundation in stone.

The church is organic and mysterious. Cultivating this community requires hard work, but ultimately we are dependent upon God to bring life and growth.

The church is an ever-expanding building because our big-hearted God is always making space for more and more people to come and make their home with him.

God has chosen to be present in the world in and through a specific community of human beings. He’s put a sign out, “You want to experience God and see him in the flesh? Go to church!”

Our CHARGE: “Let each one take care how he builds...” (1 Corinthians 3:10)

Are we building this community in such a way that enables people outside these walls to encounter the living God?

When the Building Inspector comes, when the Owner of the Field comes, will he find a united church for the world?

