

Inner-Team Fighting

- This topic just dropped into my heart while in flight, it is not from something that has happened.
- The Lord is wanting to prevent an issue from happening in our church
- Because there are differences and that's OK!

Intro - **VIDEO**

a. The harm of inner-team fighting

1. It hurts team mates.
2. A loss of unity.
3. Chance to lose the game, mission, or goals.
4. Effecting people who are watching and/or supporting the team.
5. Makes us weak as a whole.

b. There has been Inner-Team fights since the church began.

-Traditional & modern disagreements in the church

- _Holy Spirit
- _Water Baptism
- _Demons
- _Music
- _Church Building
- _Alcohol Usage
- _Same Sex Relationships

And currently

- _Halloween
- _Christmas

c. Some reasons why we might disagree.

1. Convictions
2. Different levels of spirituality
3. Personal Experiences
4. Bible interpretations

5. What you have been taught by someone you trust or like.

d. Ways not to act when we disagree

1. Blast them via Social Media
2. Shun or mistreat them in person/public
3. Gossip about them
4. Think yourself better or more righteous (they're better than you somewhere)
5. Argue/disrespect/fight in private or public

e. How do we act with differences?

1. Agree to disagree
2. Love your neighbor as yourself

f. What the Bible says:

-The City of Ephesus: Ephesus was a significant center of trade, water ways and road ways allowed trade and different cultures to be present, Ephesus was known for its amphitheater, the largest in the world, designed to hold up to 50,000 spectators. Ephesus was also the location of the great temple of Artemis, or Diana, built in 550 BC. This temple, was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

-So you could see there was a lot of different cultures, views, opinions coming into the church in Ephesus.

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, **2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**
4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **6** one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.