



## **WEEK SEVEN | DEALING WITH DISPUTES**

Being unkind... what a shame that unkindness seems to have become more the norm than showing kindness. Being unkind is one thing. Being unloving... hateful, is cutting to one's soul. Being hurt or wronged by someone who is a believer can wreck a new or shaky faith. Let's hope we can be different as Jesus was different.

**What does it feel like when someone is unkind toward you or someone you love?**

**Why is it more devastating when someone who is a believer is unkind or wrongs you?**

### **THE SITUATION**

More division. That seems to be the central theme with the Corinthian church. It seems that they have carried "expected" bad behaviors from their worldly past into the "new" lives they were trying to live.

**Read 1 Corinthians 6:4-6**

**Describe the spectator culture we currently live in? (We like to see a good train wreck. They're just giving us what we want. Good is boring.)**

**Why shouldn't we hold the world/culture to the same level of accountability as believers?**

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

**Are you just as or more shocked when you see bad behavior inside the church as you are outside the church?**

**Read Matthew 22:37–39**

**Why are the “rules of engagement” different when dealing with someone inside the church than with someone outside the church?**

**How does living in our world make the command to love challenging for you?**

**APPLY IT**

Living in our world certainly does make it challenging to love as Jesus did and said for us to do. However, we can't lean back on excuses. We are called to follow the way of Christ, no matter what that brings.

**In what part of your life do you need to feel and practice showing more love?**

**PRAY**

Start now and make this time an indispensable part of your group time. It can be at the beginning, end, or wherever but don't overlook it. We have plenty to pray about.

- Pray together before you go home.
- Take requests, email them to the group, ask them to pray this week.