



## LIFE GROUP NOTES

### Week beginning 23rd October



#### Aim of session:

What causes division in the church and how do we protect ourselves?

#### Key Scriptures

If you have access to a commentary read some background to get context.

**ROMANS 16: 17-24**

#### Warm Up

At home in your family, what causes you to 'argue' or gets you riled up?

How do you resolve conflict in the family?

#### Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.

Read the passage:

1. From what we have learned in Romans, what were the issues that divided the Roman church?
2. Why are people who cause division a bad influence? (v17-18)
3. How had the Roman Church filled Paul with joy? (v19) What can we learn from this?
4. How can we be clear about what is innocent and what is evil? (Galatians 5:16-26, Philippians 1:27-28, Philippians 4:8-9, Colossians 3:5)
5. Why should we have confidence that we can overcome the division and temptations that are often in our lives? (v20)
6. Read v21-24. What can we learn from this passage about how modern Christians should behave?

#### Growing in discipleship: Practical application

6. What are the things in the modern church that cause division?
7. Often, what is the root cause of the division?
8. How can these issues be resolved? What should we always remember? (John 13:34-35)
9. How can you be a Christian that unites the church rather than divides it?



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.