OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who*, *What*, *Where*, *When*, *How*, *Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?

Read v. 1-4. Paul says we are "not spiritual," we are "infants," and we are "acting merely human." Why is he saying this about them?

In what way are you still acting like an infant in Christ?

2) What does this passage teach us about God?

Our union with God drives our devotion to the church. Do you think it is possible to be devoted to God without being devoted to the church? Why or why not?

Paul will speak about God (5-9), the Son (10-15, and the Spirit (16-17). What do we learn about the church's relationship to each?

3) What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace? How does it point to Christ?

Think about these three statements: 1) Christ is not divided (1:13) 2) The Cross is foolishness (1:18) 3) All is yours in Christ because you are Christs (3:22-23).

How can these gospel truths increase our love for and devotion to the church?

APPLICATION

What specific step can you take this week to increase in your devotion to the church?

How would knowing that you have everything in Christ actually change your devotion to the church if you really believed it?

PRAYER

Thank God for the church and his devotion to it. Confess ways that you have replaced love with "fleshly" or false spirituality. Ask God to increase your devotion to the church as you increase in your love for Christ.