



## The Challenge of the Unity of Christ Based on the Letters of 1 Corinthians 3:3-9 Its Relevance in Local Church Ministry

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### **Abstract**

The research objective that the author means is to find out how the unity of the body of Christ in the church can be carried out properly according to 1 Corinthians 3: 3-9. moving on from the core written in the text above, the author wants the whole congregation to understand the unity of the body of Christ correctly today, given the importance of the unity of the body of Christ in the church, so that some of the more mature congregations in the faith must support the congregation that is not yet mature faith. This writing is intended so that all God's people understand well that the unity of the body of Christ is not to become divided because of disagreements, divisions and differences of opinion. but the body of Christ is the one that brings God's people better together. Some of the things that concern the author in this study are how the congregation can understand the unity of the body of Christ correctly.

**Keywords:** *The Challenge of the Unity of Christ; The Letters of 1 Corinthians 3:3-9; Local Church Ministry*

### **Introduction**

The problem that the writer finds about the unity of the body of Christ in the church is, indeed, the lack of maturity of the spiritual faith of the congregation which results in understandings about the body of Christ being poorly understood, resulting in disputes between the congregations.

As for the problems the writers encountered in the research site, there was a lack of maturity in faith: first, they were indeed lacking in the spiritual maturity of the congregation's faith, even though the congregation had difficulty accepting the truth of God's word conveyed by the pastor. Even though the church leader has established a schedule of services for the entire congregation to follow. The types of worship are worship on Sundays, PA worship (Bible Study), KOMSEL fellowship worship (cell community) and prayer and fasting worship. But some of the congregation did not want to follow the prescribed worship. The Word of God written by Paul in Romans 10:17 "So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" This verse already explains that faith comes by hearing by hearing the word of Christ. But in fact what causes the congregation's lack of maturity in the spiritual faith of the congregation is to be lazy to worship so that they do not hear the word of Christ. So how can the faith of the congregation grow if the congregation does not follow the prescribed worship services, when do they listen to God's word if they are lazy to worship. Another problem that the congregation is that the congregation prefers to stay

at home and gather at the coffee shop rather than attending worship services, here the author concludes that the congregation has poor morals so that the congregation's spiritual maturity does not grow.

Building a church as “building the Body of Christ” also means using all positive modern cultural values, knowledge, skills and experiences to ensure the best possible management, while ensuring that cultural values, knowledge, skills and modern experiences strengthen and do not weaken the church as “the Body of Christ.”(DKG-PGI, 2004)

### **Research Methods**

This study uses the Lexi J. Moleong method, which is a qualitative method, where the author receives several sources of information from several respondents which is the basis for the author to be able to draw conclusions later, namely the author describes the results in words and explanations clearly and in detail in order to find good results and maximum in research (Suharsimi, 2019). As for the results of the research in this paper, how can the congregation be more mature in faith, avoid groupings that result in divisions between the congregations and be able to understand the unity of the body of Christ correctly.

### **Biblical Study Discussion**

#### **Definition of Challenge Etymologically**

Is a sentence that refers to a view where something that is being faced is a difficulty, in the big Indonesian dictionary the word challenge can be interpreted in several basic terms, namely: First, the word challenge is a sentence used for something that is an invitation and an appeal to fight, Second, is a thing or object that inspires determination from within a person to be able to improve the ability to overcome problems or a sentence that stimulates a person to be able to work even harder both at work, trying and doing things that are manifesting results. Of the challenges in question, the third is a word that refers to things or objects that must and need to be addressed in another sense to be resolved.“

There are many different meanings in the notion of challenge, as people think from different points of view that challenge is a process or a style of life training. However, the challenge of the author's opinion can be divided into two parts, that the first challenge can indeed come from the opposition itself and the challenge from others.

From some of the basic understandings above, the author can conclude that a challenge is a stimulus to a person's self which can be a reference to be able to carry out and resolve responsibilities, problems or threatening situations, and can also be used as a reference in terms of improving oneself to achieve a goal. maximum results with a challenged feeling so that the intended goal can be resolved.

#### **Challenges From Within**

Situations that can solve a problem or responsibility given to someone, will still need to be considered that it is not only the environment that can provide challenges to someone but the most difficult thing to solve is that the challenge comes from within itself, meaning the difficulties experienced are not can be solved because the thing that hinders the resolution of the problem comes from itself.

For example, Paul G. Caram writes down some of the things that prevent someone from being able to face a challenge and be able to solve it, including: First, lack of discipline, in this case he takes an example of someone who wants to live well in his daily life, but he doesn't pay much attention to it. good for that where the person still provides opportunities for negative things and does not stay away from these things and cannot complete the challenge from within himself. Second, not willing to admit mistakes, too often people are challenged in their personalities to be able to live humbly but the challenges that make our

degrees look low are very difficult to beat even though they are in the wrong position but what often happens is that people always feel right and do not want to admit their mistakes."(Caram, 2004)

The two things above are things that come from a person's personality, it can be noticed that often challenges do not only come from the people around but the most important thing that makes us fail in facing challenges is from within ourselves.

### **Challenges from Others**

As humans who live side by side with many people and the surrounding environment which very often gives different responses, especially in a cornered situation, humans are often unable to beat challenges from other people that can damage one's personality, it is almost no different that challenges from oneself Likewise, the challenges from other people have almost the same character where the things mentioned above both give each other and throw mistakes.

In genesis 3:12-13, there is a story in which Adam, Eve, and the serpent blame each other and the serpent who intends to corrupt the relationship of God and man by receiving the fruit offered by satan, so Adam and Eve fell into the same state of sin (Caram, 2004;15).

This illustrates that the condition of a person who is challenged not to make mistakes often comes from the environment, as well as the devil in the description of the snake who does not accept the presence of humans who live according to God.

### **Definition of Unity**

Is a word that has a single basic meaning, oneness and unity is a meaning that supports each other in the sense but still refers to different emphases but cannot be separated. Seen from the daily meaning, unity often leads to a process which states that most of those who do not have boundaries are good in all situations." ( <http://jagokata.com/arti-kata/kesatuan.html>) The unity of the Church is a testimony before the world as John 17:21 "the purpose of God Himself that God desires an inseparable unity that is based on God Himself as the head of the Church.

### **The Purpose and Importance of Unity**

As the body, we must walk according to the parts that are not separate, but remain one in one unity in Christ. There are several things that make the purpose and importance of why the Church or the Body of Christ must remain one, namely to renew and unite the Church.

Renewing the church means, the church is a constant calling for believers. With the aim that as a body, it must remain willing to be corrected and be willing to place itself in accordance with God's law, with the understanding that the Body of Christ must always be willing to carry out a renewal of the mind in accordance with the teachings of God's Word. Building churches; basically to fulfill what God said in the book of Ephesians 4:13-16, so that the faithful who want the knowledge of God establish knowledge and unity of faith and true knowledge of God, and with true fullness in Jesus Christ. Uniting the Church, is one of the goals of the unity of the church, is to reveal the oneness that has been manifested in God. In Indonesia, unite the churches that were born and grew apart. The purpose of unifying the church is to harmonize every difference that exists in each of the churches, among others: to respect every teaching of the Church, so that it is created in common history, to respect the duty and vocation of the church to be respected in the context of the task of the common vocation (DKG-PGI, 2004;45)

### **Meaning of Whose is the Body of Christ**

Wikipedia writes that the Body of Christ itself has two distinct meanings. First, Body refers to the physical sense when Jesus said to His disciples "This is My body" Luke 22:19-20, but the apostle Paul said it was clear that Christ's own body leads to an understanding as a church 1 Corinthians 12:12-14. (William, 2012)

Although, in common usage, the term "Body of Christ" may refer to the spiritual body of Christ, these two separate uses of meaning form an important part of Christian theology. For some Christians (such as the Catholic Church, the Orthodox Church, and the East Assyrian Church), the term can refer to the actual presence of Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

For a wider segment of Christianity, including some Protestant denominations, the term may refer to the Christian Church as a community of believers as commonly used in Paul's letters. The term "the Mystical Body of Christ" is often used to emphasize the spiritual nature or sacramental character that characterizes a group of believers (faith in Christ)."(Wikipedia.org)

### **Etymology of the Body of Christ**

In the first century this expression of the word body of Christ was not an unknown word but rather the word "body" was not commonly used for a group of people, as Paul did in his important phrase "you are the body of Christ" (1 Corinthians 12:27), perhaps Paul was interested in the idea of the words in the "Eucharist"; Holy communion. The unity of the bread called the body of Christ which is shared for the whole congregation, is of course the reason for the designation of the body of Christ."(Wikipedia.org)

In Christian theology, the body of Christ has two distinct meanings, the first refers to Jesus at the last supper, namely "this is my body" (Luke 22:19-20), while the second is what the Apostle Paul explicitly uses to refer to the Church (1 Cor. 12:12-12).

### **Understanding the Church as the Body of Christ**

The principle of living "in Christ or the body of Christ is not only intended in terms of a narrow context that is related to personal matters and related to one's personal spirituality, but also relates to social life together, especially the church."(Guthrie, 2009) For the Apostle Paul regarding unity includes unity. spiritual unity in the body of Christ where there is no difference in the relationship in Jesus Christ, but not a unity that eliminates all historical differences. Jews and Gentiles it can be further said that any attempt by either party to abolish the ethnic and cultural circumstances of the Apostle Paul's particular conception of the unity between Jews and Gentiles."(Howard, 1996)

### **Definition of Church**

The word "Church" Igreja comes from the Portuguese word which is used today, is a translation of the Greek word "*ekklesia*" which means to be called out (*ek* is to come out; *klesia* comes from the word *kaleo* which means to call); a group of people called out of the world. The church that is meant here is the people, not referring to the building of houses of worship for Christians." (<http://bible-truth.Org/Eklesia.html>)

The English word "church" is an appropriate translation for *ekklesia*, which means that which belongs to God" (Broning, 2010).

What is meant by belonging to God are people who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. So what I mean by "the Church is a community of believers". According to the biblical view, the salvation bestowed by the Lord Jesus Christ is not only addressed to individuals, but to all the people of the Lord Jesus Christ who create unity. But because every believer becomes a member of the Lord Jesus Christ as a whole, every believer automatically gets a share of that salvation.

### **The Congregation As One Body**

Of all the words used by the Apostle Paul regarding the unity of the body of Christ, it is the most vivid and meaningful figure of speech as it is written in Romans which teaches that all the different gifts can be used in one church (Romans 12:4-8). In 1 Corinthians the church is described as a body, the human body gives a picture of Christ's relationship with believers. This notion of the body of Christ to how closely

is the bond that holds all believers together, but it is important to remind of the different spiritual gifts that are being manifested.” (Broning, 2010;71)

### **Paul's Two Views on the Body of Christ**

In the understanding of the Apostle Paul in the idea of the body of Christ that there are two understandings about the body of Christ as follows:

First, "we are in Christ or Christ in us" The Apostle Paul often said that believers live "in Christ". These expressions refer to the close union between Christ and Christians (Galatians 2:20). Second, concerning the notion of the "head of the body", that the church is only the body and the head of the body is only worn by Jesus Christ. The expression "head" means the leader is the one found in Ephesians 1:23.

Michael Giffit said that there are several things that explain the body image to describe the existence of the congregation, namely: solidarity, diversity of functions, cooperation, correcting, not for oneself. From the description above, the outline of the body image is a metaphor for the image of the unity of the congregation.

### **Characteristics of the Body of Christ or the Church**

In the big Indonesian dictionary, it is written that characteristics can be interpreted as traits, forms, examples, character. This refers to a direction that reflects or gives meaning to the one thing in question, specifically in this case the author sees that it is not only humans who have ascending characteristics but also the church or the Body of Christ which is a reflection of God. itself, namely: to achieve true unity as the body of Christ, it is a must for God's people to be able to carry out great duties and responsibilities. This is for the achievement of the task that has been given by Allah.

First, to renew, build and unite the Church to be given to God, although in some parts of the belief, doctrine and some matters relating to the interests of the Church are physically different, but the main essence is so that the Body of Christ can be built and united into one calling, which is to be one in one. Christ. John 17:2 writes that "that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that you sent Me".

Second, preaching the gospel to all creatures, in the activity of evangelism, the unity of the Body of Christ is very much needed in order to build the wholeness of the Body of Christ itself which is the living Church. In this case, the task of evangelizing is a responsibility that must be borne by all members of the Church, meaning that it is not only the task of a leader or Church official but is the duty of all people who have received the great news of joy.

### **Have Love**

In addition to the two main attributes above, the Body of Christ has attributes or characteristics that should be owned by the Church itself. The word love comes from the Greek "*Agape*" means caring and seeking the best for others without any strings attached (Romans 5:5; 1 Corinthians 13; Ephesians 5:2; Colossians 3:14). This trait is very important to keep in the church and needs to be imitated by believers so that everyone can have the same "LOVE" as what Jesus did. Even though love is one of the nine fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and evidence of a person experiencing the new birth in Christ (Galatians 2:29 ; 3:9 -10; 5:1), having love is something very important. need to be developed by all followers of Christ. In the Gospel of I John 4:7 there are three reasons expressed by John deals with Love:

“First, Love is God's own attribute (I John 4:7-9) which is manifested by giving His only begotten Son to all people (followers of Christ or people who believe that Jesus is Lord). Thus, as believers, we must always take part in doing and having the love that Jesus meant. Second, because God loves his followers, as followers of Christ himself will experience His love and forgiveness. And do help to others even though it requires us to make personal sacrifices. Third, there are things that will be accepted if you have done the

love that God intended, namely by loving one another, then God will perfect that love in His people (1 John 4:12).”(Alkitab Penuntun Hidup Berkelimpahan; 2125)

John said Jesus Christ loved His own in the world.” When Christ was in this world, not everyone belonged to Him, and now not everyone in this world belongs to Him. A person's possession of Christ can be seen in two ways, namely coming to Jesus and believing in Him who made it provide salvation (John 6:37).

These people are those who have been given to Him by the Father, and those who come and believe in Christ, become a chosen people who accept Christ's Love, so that Christ serves them in a special way (John 13:1). God's providence occurs to those who believe in Christ and carry out His commandments so that they will not perish (John 17:12 and John 18:9).

### **Have Exemplary and Humility**

The Apostle during his ministry gave a lot of Christian teachings about the Example of Christ himself. It is this exemplary attitude that can lead people to understand and lead to a better Christian life by imitating what Jesus himself has done. Two facts that can be seen from Jesus and can be applied by the church as the Body of Christ:

First, He is the most humble of people: humility produces inner peace, Satan cannot shake a man who has peace (Rom. 16:20)

Second, he is the most selfless person: he gives and gives without expecting anything in return. Love is completely unselfish (Luke 17:7-10).”(Caram, 2004;37)

### **Have Obedience**

As the body of Christ, Jesus himself taught that the nature of His obedience as God. began when He was willing to give His life to redeem human life to become the property of God Himself. Obedience is meant as one body of Christ, we are required to understand the meaning of obedience. Obedience does not mean just doing it, but obedience refers to integrity that is built from day to day. Words and actions should be appropriate and carried out continuously and not change.

Louis Berkhof says in his book Systematic Theology 3 that Jesus Christ himself has saved man by preventing him from going in the wrong direction but giving him a right way of Faith and obedience, both in His life and in His death by giving inspiration. for them to be able to live a life in the fear of the Lord.” (Berkhof, 2011)

### **Having Concern for Others**

As a manifestation of the church's concern for others, the presence of visiting services to the congregation is one of the factors that will influence the congregation to feel more and more that they are not in a cornered situation but feel cared for. Yosafat Bangun in his quote said by Mesach Krisetya in the book Pastoral Theology that "pastoral ministers are given a special honor to visit private homes and congregations or church functionaries almost anytime.."

### **Some Challenges of the Church or Body of Christ**

The Holy Spirit should have gathered His people from all nations, tribes, peoples and languages, into a fellowship that is called the Church, in which God Himself is the head (Ephesians 4:3-16; Rev. 7:9). Likewise, the Church does not live for herself as God has done, when He sent His only begotten Son as a ransom for His people. God made the church into one unified body before God, as a union professing one body, one Spirit in the bond of peace, one hope, one Lord, Faith, Baptism, one God and Father of all (Ephesians 4:4- 6).

In this way it is ensured that in fact the church is in oneness and that there are no limitations according to the rules of the world that can separate the movement from the Body of Christ itself.” This new fellowship includes all nations and despite all differences in any case, all of them are still given a place by God in this fellowship to achieve the awakening of the Body of Christ. However, in the midst of this good union, several things emerged that became a challenge in the effort to unite the Body of Christ.

Mark Shaw describes an article that contains the beginning of the Church's supposed disunity in Africa, during his Missionary visit. He was first surprised by the condition of the large number of Christians, so that it grew his enthusiasm to be more active in bringing souls to God. In 1900 it was stated that this was a time when there were about eight million people who professed to be a Christian in Africa, the ratio being that ten percent of the total population in Africa at that time.

But after that great event, not long after that there was also a rift that took place quietly where there was such a great schism in the 1960's there were many churches claiming that they had more than seven million members, which included 290 tribes that existed from all the tribes in Africa at that time.

### **Sectarianism**

Over time, more and more churches have been established with various traditional church denominations. And this incident was the beginning of the emergence of other diversity that occurred in the church due to the split with the existence of the next generation of denominations and became a sign for even more significant developments in the diversity of the Body of Christ in the future. The occurrence of the division in question is a system that can damage the oneness of the church that is once united in a good unity. Two things that are related to the divisions between the united churches are the emergence of sectarianism is intended that this attitude is an attitude that can be said is an attitude that wants to be great in a way that is not right, selfish and only wants development only in itself, that is a trait that occurs in the church that is an exclusive nature that states that: Only the Church is the truest.

Such churches are a church that will have an understanding that will be hostile to other churches because it feels right and the spiritual nature of the church's arrogance and not denominationalism that will be the main cause of sectarian divisions. It should not be a good thing if the churches become a forum that always makes a difference by feeling the most correct of all.

### **Syncretism**

Not only moving from the sectarian split, there was also a split that could be said to be more fatal to the growth and development of the church both at that time as well as today. *Syncretism* is an act of perverting the Bible by mixing it with various ideological views that are different from the truth of the Bible.

In the 1930s, a faithful church in Germany separated from its parent church or the central church that oversees it due to the above split. This had a profound effect on the existence of the church, and this type of division has also been recorded in the Bible. The Bible writes that the unity of the church or the Body of Christ is a unity that cannot be separated from anything, namely one in truth, and the gospel.

### **Why the Body of Christ Must Unite**

In addition to the two, there are two challenges from the body of Christ that cause a lot of divisions due to differences that create feelings that are mutually right. In this case why the body of Christ must unite is with one aim to carry out the commands of Jesus himself, and to achieve the form of making one one church in Indonesia, so that the church or the body of Christ is able to accept each other and recognize that what is meant in one unit is not oriented to who works harder but must refer to God Himself who delegates the Church, which is one body in Jesus Christ.

## Carrying out the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus

Jesus said in Matthew 28:18-20 that,

“All power has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go, make disciples of all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do all things that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

The verse above is very clear that the body of Christ has a great duty and responsibility to be carried out as the People of God. Before Jesus ascended to Heaven this enormous mandate was given to the disciples who witnessed it. In this case, it should be noted that there are important things that must be made as a performance that is never lost as the body of Christ, namely remaining faithful to carry out His Great Commission duties.

The gospel message should not be just a pastor or church worker, but the duty of every people who believe in Jesus Christ as the head of the church. As the Lord Jesus said in His Great Commission. In addition to preaching the gospel, the disciples still have a big responsibility to make them successful disciples and give good fruit as the Body of Christ. the gospel that is preached must be a good foundation on which to live with God. The Apostle Paul said that as believers, we must also pay attention to the teachings around us, whether they have a good impact or can have a bad influence. In this case the church as a unified body must make a major contribution to the faithful by teaching, provide a correct understanding of the gospel, and set a good example so that the task of the Great Commission can be completed properly.

### For the Church to be Holy

At the first Pentecost the “Church” was founded and later at the second coming of Jesus the “Church” in this form will end, it will be transformed into a victorious Church in the kingdom of God. The church believes that pastoral care is carried out with one goal, namely to be holy. "Holy" means holy, holy, pious, pious and others. The holy church here leads to the existence of humans who are less honest, less good, less true are still in the environment of the church, by looking at some of the things above, of course the church will never be holy if only by relying on human existence, it will but the Church can only be sanctified by the Blood but the Church can only be sanctified by the Blood of Jesus Christ. According to the author, the existence of the Church today must lead to the perfection of the grace given by God Himself through His Son Jesus who will perfect and become the Head of the Church.

### In order to have a good management function

After the church or the Body of Christ already belongs to each other and becomes a unit, then there is an important part that cannot be lost in the church, both in terms of sects, doctrines and actual ecclesiastical functions. As the apostle Paul also said during his ministry he said to "always keep an eye on the teachings we receive", remain faithful to persevere, so that it will help us to be able to see what kind of teachings we will receive for our lives. With a good management system it will be able to help and assist someone in enjoying life with Christ both within the scope of service and so that it can become an ability to be able to serve the body of Christ with a passionate attitude,

### Planning

In order to achieve the goal, one management must have a good planning selection first. Planning is basically a step to make a goal better. A goal will never be completed properly without a good plan and rationale, because in every situation it can lead to conflicts that lead to divisions. The split of a church denomination or the Body of Christ begins when there are differences of opinion on the plan so that sectarianism arises within the denomination. A plan is a basic activity that seeks to maximize the capabilities possessed in order to achieve the objectives of the intended plan. There are three things that minimum planning has three characteristics, namely:



1. The planning must concern the future
2. There is an element of personal or organizational identification, namely a series of future actions that planners will take.
3. The future, action and identification of individuals and organizations is a very important element in any planning.

From some of the things above, planning is an action that is mature before it happens in actual reality. It is intended that planning is a description of future activities and what will be achieved in planning to achieve the desired results.

### **Organizing**

Basically, organizing is a step to place the right people in a set of activities according to the right function and according to the planning that has been set. Formally, the organization is a social entity that is goal-oriented and has a well-planned structure. By having the right organizational system, the church as the body of Christ will not experience divisions and feel true to each other's teachings. In simple terms, organizing can be interpreted as a grouping of people with tasks and responsibilities that are important to do well in order to achieve the goals of the organization that have been set.

### **Implementation**

There is a third working part of why the Church as one Body in Christ must have unity. So that every device in the organization can carry out its duties and responsibilities correctly and effectively in the tasks being carried out even though they are carrying out several tasks at the same time. The importance of implementation is an action that is usually carried out after grouping and organizing the existing tasks.

### **Briefing**

With a directive system for the efforts of human resources in the organization, the importance of direction in the organization is an effort to lead to the underlying direction that one body in Christ cannot be separated from an essence that is never separated from the Bible as a unifying basis. So that in this direction it provides a lot of motivation for loyal members in the organization and seeks motivation to follow in carrying out what God has commanded humans through the Bible.

### **Control And Supervision**

Control is a form of responsibility, and is a process of determining the work that has been carried out, a form of control also aims to correct and make it an evaluation. Besides being a starting point for good supervision, control is also defined as a forum for those who give responsibility for activities that aim to foster good security. Biblically, honesty or sincerity is a foundation in the life of an organization.

### **Evaluation**

Evaluation is an action at the end of all programs. Tasks and policies that have been implemented, the importance of evaluation in a plan is to turn a goal into a good achievement. Robert Belows, said that evaluation is a periodic assessment system of a person's value where it aims to find out what values and abilities they have and to see the potential that exists in the plan. The purpose of self-evaluation is to improve or improve organizational performance through evaluation performance level of human resources in the organization.” (Heryanto, 2016)

From some of the definitions above, it can be concluded that the importance of unity in building the Body of Christ is a necessity that disobeys the essence of being separated from the importance of being united in Bible truth. Good management creates teachings and views that will be difficult to challenge for its existence, in the sense that the Body of Christ or the church will not be divided if it has the right management understanding, supervision, so that even though there are many teachings or words that are

*sectarianism* then the body of Christ will remain intact as stated in the plan that God intended for the Body of Christ.

### **Discussion Result**

Based on the whole table that the author has described above, the writer sees that there are still some things that are the cause because the congregation is still alive as a worldly person, which results in disputes. Looking at all these results, the writer saw that 20% of the respondents who gave the answer did not want to join worship, accepted the shortcomings of one another and were still comparing their pastors. Indeed, some things have been done well by the church, but there is still a tendency where things that are specifically based on 1 Corinthians 3:3-9 have not been done well. Some of the things that are at the core of this section are the causes of the grouping and disputes in the above verse. The body of Christ should be one and make Jesus Christ the head of the leader of the body of Christ.

There is still a lack of maturity in the spiritual faith of the congregation which results in disputes and lack of understanding about the unity of the body of Christ among the congregation, but there is an obligation as a congregation to always follow activities in worship so that the faith and understanding of the congregation regarding the body of Christ is properly understood.

### **Conclusion**

First, the church must be more mature in terms of spirituality so that there will be no more disputes between the congregations. Those who are more spiritually mature actually support the congregation that is not yet spiritually mature, instead of making a wrong understanding. Because it is through the word of God that faith arises. Through teaching God's word teaches that the strong support the weak. And also those who are spiritually immature should also prefer an open attitude because that must be strengthened. Those who are more mature spiritually or who understand God's word more have an important role in this matter, so that they no longer isolate or divide groups among the congregation, instead those who are more mature spiritually bring peace and unity among the congregations.

Second, the issue of the occurrence of groupings among the congregations must be properly resolved, that the groupings that occur among the congregations that cause divisions among the congregations are not the exact opposite. The grouping that occurs is because the congregation follows different teachings, because if those who do not follow (PTK) the Fellowship of the Body of Christ are considered not the body of Christ. Seeing this, the congregation in GSJPDRI Riau must be more mature in accepting the true teaching of what has been taught, not making groupings among the congregations.

Third, the problem of the congregation that lacks understanding of the unity of the body of Christ, based on 1 Corinthians 3:3-9 the church in Corinth is still a natural human being and emphasizes its leaders, which results in a lack of understanding about the unity of the body of Christ, the congregation in GSJPDRI Riau is indeed part of the congregation that is not yet mature. spiritually, and spiritually mature, they misunderstood the true unity of the body of Christ. So seeing this, the entire congregation must hold true to God's word that the body of Christ is one, not a grouping.

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