

# SELAH Devotional

## *Bad Ideas for a Good Church Week 1*

**Bad Idea:** We Can Be United Around Personalities

**Text:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

## **S — Stop**

Pause for a moment. Take a slow breath in through your nose... and let it out slowly.

Before scrolling. Before thinking about what other people believe. Before comparing yourself to anyone else.

Just stop.

## **E — Exhale**

As you exhale, let go of the pressure to fit in.

Let go of the need to be:

- on the “right team”
- with the “right people”
- following the “right voice”

Pray quietly:

*Jesus, help me slow down and listen.*

## **L — Look**

Read this verse:

*“Is Christ divided?” 1 Corinthians 1:13*

The church in Corinth loved Jesus but they started dividing into groups based on which leader they liked best. Some said, “I follow Paul.” Others said, “I follow Apollos.” Some even said, “I follow Christ,” but in a way that made them feel superior.

Paul reminds them of something simple and important: Jesus isn’t split into teams.

You weren't baptized into a pastor, a youth leader, an influencer, or a friend group. You were baptized into **Christ**.

That means your identity comes from Him, not from who you follow, who you agree with, or who agrees with you.

## A — Ask

Ask yourself honestly (no right answers, just real ones):

- Who has the biggest influence on my faith right now?
- Do I ever confuse following Jesus with following someone who talks about Jesus?
- When I disagree with other Christians, do I still remember that we belong to the same Jesus?

Then ask God:

*Jesus, what has slowly taken Your place at the center of my faith?*

## H — Hear

Listen quietly for a moment. You may not hear words and that's okay.

But trust this truth: Jesus isn't competing for your attention. He's inviting your loyalty.

Hear Him say: *"You belong to Me."*

## Closing Prayer

Jesus, thank You for loving me enough to die for me.

Help me follow **You**, not just voices, opinions, or teams.

Put Yourself back at the center of my life — and teach me how to love others who follow You too. Amen.

When you hear someone talk about faith (online, at school, or at church) ask yourself:

*Does this help me love Jesus more... and love others better?*

If it does, receive it. If it doesn't, let it go.