

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: September 17, 2006	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-15
Topic: Answering the Call...To develop the Church of Christ	

- ✘ What is your role in the building of Christ's Church?
- ✘ What is my role in the building of Christ's Church?
- ✘ What is our role in the building of Christ's Church?

These are pertinent questions that one needs to consider and questions that Paul touches on as he considers our role in the body of Christ. At the time of this writing, Paul was attempting to address divisions in the church, such as:

- ✘ The Roots of Divisions
- ✘ The Reasoning needed in Divisions
- ✘ The Revelations ahead because of Divisions

In *verses 1-4*, Paul seems to be addressing the existence of 'Factions' and the reasons as to why they seem to exist. Paul suggests that factions exist because of:

- ✘ Inadequacy of Development (verse 1)
- ✘ Inadequacy of Diet (verse 2)
- ✘ Inadequacy of Demeanor (verse 3)
- ✘ Inadequacy of Dedication (verse 4)

These various factions and inadequacies would suggest disunity and it is important that we must be a spiritual unit. We have to allow God to transform us personally and echo the sentiments of John on declaring that *God must increase and we must decrease*. The fact is that we should all be seeking to be spiritual houses.

Verses 5-9 suggest a **following**, which must be the result of:

- ✘ Involvement from God. (verse 5) The source and initiative is from God and it is He who chooses our place in the Christian church.
- ✘ Increase of God (verse 6)
- ✘ Importance belongs to God (verse 7)
- ✘ Indebtedness is God's (verse 8)
- ✘ Institution is God's (verse 9)

We must be a serving unit because we are called to be servants of God. This demands the pursuing of assigned tasks because the fact is that we ought to be seeking to be of spiritual help.

In *verses 10-15*, Paul seems to suggest **fire** to reveal:

- ✘ God's Expert Builders (verse 10)
- ✘ God's Evolver of The Building (verse 11)
- ✘ God's Evaluation of The Builders (verses 12-13)
- ✘ God's Enhancement of The Builders (verse 14)
- ✘ God's Escapee Builders (verse 15)

We must be a sterling unit, ensuring that we are passing alignment tests. The fact is that we should seek to have spiritual honor. If we are to build Christ's Church we must realize that the Church belongs to Christ. We need to have Hearts that are yearning for Christ, and that are yielded to Christ and Heads that are yoked to Christ.

