

“1 Corinthians 1”  
January 23, 2005  
By Rebecca Enney

I Corinthians 1:10 “Be united in the same mind and in the same purpose.” These words in the Bible were written to a church that had a lot of arguments going on. Unfortunately that happens sometimes.

This is a story about fish! Because neither the SCS Teacher nor Mrs. Potato Head can teach the SCS class this morning because of all the snow, Pastor Ed called on Walter The Cat and this is the story that Walter The Cat told to the children.

“Once upon a time there was a fisherman, named Mr. Five By Five out in his boat on Lake Flibberdejib. Mr. Five By Five did not use a fishing pole, like I do.” said Walter The Cat. “He used a fishing net, like this, because he gathered lots of fish to bring them to the market to sell.”

“Now, in this so called Lake Flibberdejib there was a community of blue fish. These blue fish were very proud of being blue, their families before them had always lived in Lake Flibberdejib and they had always been blue.

In another section of Lake Flibberdejib, there was a village of red fish. The Red Fish families taught their children, that when they grew up and got married, they should only marry other Red Fish.

And in yet a third part of Lake Flibberdejib there was a whole school of yellow fish. **YELLOW FISH ARE THE BEST** was the sign at the door to their school.

This particular morning Mr. Five By Five dropped his net into the water and after some time he pulled the net back into his boat, full of blue fish, and red fish and yellow fish. Boy were those fish fighting! You never saw so much thrashing around. Now, the problem for the fish was not that they were leaving Lake Flibberdejib. They all wanted to go to market. The problem that had them so upset was that all the Blue Fish and Red Fish and Yellow Fish were mixed in together and they didn’t like that!

Mr. Five By Five looked at all that commotion and knew there was no way for him to move that net to the market. There was just too much hubbub and disorder.

Mr. Five By Five wanted to help these fish so he cleared his throat to get the fishes attention. “I understand that you are all from Lake Flibberdejib, is this correct?” And all the fish of all colors said “Yes!”

Mr. Five By Five continued “Do you all want to go to market?” “Yes! Yes! Yes!” shouted all the fish. “Would you like to help others go to market also?” The fish hesitated and then cautiously said “Yes?”

Mr. Five By Five said “That will work best only if you are **UNITED IN THE SAME MIND AND IN THE SAME PURPOSE**. Could you please all line up in neat rows so that more of you can fit. Then more fish will come into the net and receive a ride to the market.”

The Blue Fish and Red Fish and Yellow Fish looked at each other. Finally, one little yellow fish said in a small fishy voice “That makes sense. I can do that.” Soon others joined the little yellow fish and before long all the fish had laid in neat rows in the net and Mr. Five By Five was able to gather ever so many additional fish to go to market. When they were united in the same mind and the same purpose, more fish wanted to join them.”

Walter The Cat said to the children “It’s like that in the church. Jesus told us to be fishers of people, to bring people to the Word of God. When all the different kinds of folks come to worship, there could be some disorder and hubbub, like when all the fish were thrashing about in the net. But Pastor Ed is a good pastor and he reminds everyone that we must not have hubbub and disorder. No arguing!

When we remain UNITED IN THE SAME MIND AND IN THE SAME PURPOSE, there is room in the church for many more to want to join to LOVE AND SERVE JESUS OUR SAVIOR. THE END