



Calling deserters back to the gospel
Mark 14:72

WHY DID THE REFORMATION HAPPEN?

Hear ☼

Read 2 Corinthians 11.1-4

J e s u s P u r i f i e s H i s C h u r c h .

People in the church can misunderstand the gospel or swell with pride. And, whether we are trying to be helpful or out to get something for ourselves, we can obscure the purity and simplicity of devotion to Christ. At times the church can see herself as the one providing salvation rather than as the Savior's bride. In this passage, Paul is clear that he is only a servant to Jesus, who is Savior and groom. In the period leading up to the 1500's, the church had started to describe itself more as Savior than bride, and so a collection of pastors from different areas called the church back to seeing itself as the bride. It was this need to be called back to the simplicity and purity of the gospel that brought Luther and others into what we now call the "Protestant Reformation."

Love ☼

What does Paul mean by "divine jealousy" here? What are people chasing that makes him jealous?

What is Paul warning us about?

What is he calling us to do?

Why do you think that Paul starts off by calling this "foolishness?" Is he being serious, or is he making another point?

Proclaim ☼

The call back to sincere and pure devotion to Christ is not only for Paul's original readers or the church in the 1500's. What things seem to "complicate" or muddy our devotion to Christ? How can you, and how will you proclaim the good news to call each other (as families and friends) back to "sincere and pure devotion to Christ?"



We often think of jealousy as a bad thing, but Paul claims it for himself unashamedly here. Is there a right kind of jealousy, and if so, what makes it right? Where else in Scripture might you go to read and think about good jealousy?

