



And now I make one more appeal, my dear brothers and sisters. Watch out for people who cause divisions and upset people's faith by teaching things contrary to what you have been taught. Stay away from them. [Romans 16:17](#)



What is something you have learned to do from YouTube?

1. **Read Proverbs 13:20 and 1 Corinthians 15:33.** Both passages suggest that the people we listen to and spend time with shape us. What voices have the greatest influence on you right now? How do you decide which voices deserve that influence?
2. **Romans 16:18 warns about people using “smooth talk and glowing words” to influence others.** In a world of podcasts, YouTube, TikTok and social media, what should we look for before allowing someone to shape our thinking or faith?
3. **Read Romans 16:17–18.** Paul warns about people who cause division and create obstacles to faith. What is the difference between healthy disagreement and unhealthy division? How can you tell which one is happening?
4. **Read Ephesians 4:1–3, 15.** Paul tells Christians both to “speak the truth in love” and to “make every effort” to maintain unity. Why do we find it easier to emphasise truth at the expense of love—or love at the expense of truth? What does holding both together look like?

5. **Read Philippians 4:8–9.** Paul tells us to intentionally fill our minds with what is true, honourable, right, pure and worthy of praise. If you honestly assessed what you consume each week, what are you becoming an “expert” in? Is anything worth changing?
6. **Read Romans 14:19.** Paul says, “Let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.” Think about your conversations, opinions and social media interactions. What does it practically look like to become someone who builds rather than divides?
7. **Consider these three questions: What voices are shaping me? What kind of influence am I having? Who am I becoming?** Which one deserves the most attention in your life right now? What is one practical step you can take this week?

Closing Thought

Discernment isn't about becoming suspicious of everyone; it's about becoming so grounded in Jesus that we recognise what sounds unlike Him. The goal isn't to become experts at identifying everything that is wrong, but to become people who know what is true, pursue what is good, and protect the unity Jesus created.

The enemy wants Christians consumed with each other. Paul wants Christians captivated by Jesus.

Prayer Focus

Pray for **wisdom without cynicism and truth without division**. Ask God to help you recognise the voices shaping you, guard your heart from criticism and suspicion, and make your own influence one that draws people closer to Jesus and to one another.

Pray for Catalyst to be a church that **knows truth deeply, loves people genuinely, extends grace freely, and removes obstacles so people can find Jesus**.

