

## I Cor. 1:10-17 The Games People Play

How many of you know people that “play games?” How does it make you feel? What are the risks of playing games with each other? What usually happens when people play games? Today I want to talk about games people play all the time and the problem it causes.

1. **The FAME Game – 1 Cor 1:12** - You become enamored with a group, actor, musician, or some other famous person and you put them about your relationship with God. You do everything, say everything, and think everything just like these people. You can even do this on a real spiritual level. You can put the preacher, speaker, or some Christian above your relationship with God. The danger here is that we begin to “follow” these people instead of following Christ.
2. **The BLAME Game – Gen 3:4-9** - Blaming others for our mistakes, problem, and issues we have is as old as the Bible. Adam blamed Eve for him eating the fruit. So while it is not new, it is wrong. Finding someone else to blame may satisfy our conscience for a while, but in the long run we must face up to our own problems. We will never be “all that we can be” until we stand the test of fire for our own actions.
3. **The SHAME Game – 1 Cor 12:12-20** - When we are unsuccessful in blaming others for our problems and failures, we then move into trying to make others look worse than we do. It is interesting that when we try to shame others it is because we are not able to make ourselves look better. Therefore, we have to try to make others look worse than they are. Somehow we think that will make us look better or at least not so bad.
4. **The NAME Game – 1 Cor 1:26-31** - Pride is the single biggest challenge we have in life. It is a basic sin that we all fight. When you boil down most sin to their lowest common denominator you will find that it all comes down to pride. Who we are, what we want, and how we are going to get it. It is the desire for self-recognition.
5. **The SAME Game – 1 Cor 1:10** - Love one another. Do what Jesus did because Love covers a multitude of sin. John says, “They will know we are Christians by our Love”.