

THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE
Corinthians

The Greeting

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

A ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Commented [DT1]: The Ekklesia (The called out ones)

Commented [DT2]: syn

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

C ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord

B Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Commented [DT3]: eklethete (y'all were called)

Commented [DT4]: koinania

A The Church is the “Ekklesia” – the congregation of called-out-ones that exists, not as individuals, but together as a community.

B We are called “*eklethete*” for fellowship, community.

C The context or “location” of our calling is grace. Grace is the “space” in which God operates and invites us into. Grace is about making space, being a wide room with broad boarders.

The Appeal

A ¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

Commented [DT5]: parakalo

Commented [DT6]: literally: that you say the same things

Commented [DT7]: schismata

Commented [DT8]: literally: that you be aligned or put in order

1:18-2:16

Paul reminds the congregation at Corinth that he shared with them a message of God's wisdom. A wisdom not of puffed-up knowledge, but of sacrificial love – the cross.

Christ's way (and Paul's way) is not of flashy power or domination, and neither should our way be. We don't work with a mind based on power from this world, but we have the mind of Christ.

B ^{3:1}And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?

Commented [DT9]: Gr: zelos (zeal)

A Agreement. Be of the same mind. Be of the same purpose. Be aligned together (unity) – all part working in sync.

B Stop quarrelling over power and control.

The Vision

⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have **a common purpose**, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. ⁹For **B** we are God's servants, **working together**, you are God's field, God's building.

¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.

¹⁶ Do you not know that **C** **you** are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in **you**? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and **you** are that temple.

A A vision of unity: being "one", a common purpose.

B A vision of working together to build, to plant.

C A vision of the church being the temple where God dwells. Every member making up part, not the whole, of the temple.

A Commented [DT10]: Literally, are one

Commented [DT11]: Gr: synergoi

Commented [DT12]: Y'all