



Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, June 26, 2022

1 Corinthians 3:1-23 – Building with Care (Part 1)

Paul begins this chapter with a metaphor of the Corinthians believers as infants who are unable to consume solid food. He describes the work of the gospel with the metaphor of sowing, watering, and growing seeds. Then in verse 10, Paul switches from the agricultural metaphor to an architectural metaphor – referring to the believers as a building, gospel workers as builders, and the Lord himself building up the Church – to present four vitally important truths about the spiritual building process.

You must have the right foundation.

You must have the right builders.

You must have the right materials.

You must have the right purpose.

We respond and apply the word of God that we have heard by being built up in Christ.

Now I commit you to [the protective, loving care of] God and to the word of his grace [the counsel and promises of His unmerited favor], which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all [those who are set apart, who are sanctified, for God's purpose]. (Acts 20:32)

Discussion Questions:

- Why does Paul state that the Corinthian believers were like infants who were unable to receive solid food?
- How does Paul describe his own work and the work of Apollos? How does Paul describe what the Lord does?
- How do we know that Jesus is the right foundation for any spiritual building? Why is it important?
- What are the characteristics of a wise or expert builder?
- How can believers simultaneously be both builders and those being built up?
- What does it mean to build with gold, silver, and precious stones instead of wood, hay, or straw? What is it that is precious to the Lord?
- Why is it important to build with care?