

The Life and Letters Of Paul

1 Corinthians 1

1. The city of Corinth was at the heart of an important trade route in the ancient world. Like many cities that thrive on trade, Corinth had a reputation for sexual immorality, religious diversity, and corruption. The church that Paul planted there floundered under all of these influences and began to divide over various issues.

1 Corinthians 1:1-3/Acts 18:1,4,8/ Also see Acts 18:17- partner sold out for mission

2. Paul thanks God for the Corinthian believers despite their immorality. He is thankful that they've come to Christ and are at least staying engaged with the Christian community; this provides the opportunity for God to work in them and through them.

1 Corinthians 1:4/James 4:6-And he gives grace generously/Romans 3:4-grace is a gift/Jude 1:4- grace taken for granted, are we guilty of this?

3. Paul acknowledges the abundant spiritual gifts that God has given the church in Corinth. Later, he corrects their distorted perspectives on these gifts.

1 Corinthians 1:5-7/1 Peter 4:10- gifts given to serve one another/Ephesians 4:11-12-do his work and build the church.

4. Paul encourages his readers to live a holy life so that they will be found faultless when Christ returns, God has chosen them and brought them into partnership with his Son.

1 Corinthians 1:8-9/Philippians 1:5- partners in spreading the Good News/Matthew 28:19-commission.

5. Paul approaches the issue with division in the church some on personality, some on loyalty and some on Theology. Name some topics that can cause division in a church?

1 Corinthians 1:10-12/Acts 18:24- Apollos/ John 1:42-Peter

6. Paul's rhetorical question challenges the Corinthians regarding the divisions within their congregation, Although Paul baptized people as part of his ministry, he believed his primary calling was to preach the gospel. Let's keep the first thing first Church.

1 Corinthians 1:13-17/Mark 16:15- go preach/ Romans 15:20-My ambition has always been to preach the Good News

7. Not everyone will see the power of The Cross the way a believer will, do you still see it as powerful?

1 Corinthians 1:18-23/2 Corinthians 2:15-16- sweet smell, smell of death/ Romans 1:22-23- claiming to be wise.

8. the power of God Jesus' death on the cross reveals God's power to save people from sin and death, and thus His power to redeem seemingly irredeemable situations (like the problems at Corinth

1 Corinthians 1:24-25/

9. Paul emphasizes on how God can use any man especially men that the world would not qualify, this way God gets all the Glory.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29/1 Samuel 17- a Shepard slays a giant, Judges 6- weakest and smallest clan/

10. Some Corinthians may have placed their confidence in their rhetorical skills or spiritual gifts; Paul challenges them to depend on God's work in the cross rather than their self-sufficiency.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31