

Men's Sunday Night
The Book of 1 Corinthians
"Christian Conduct"
Introduction

"Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful." 1 Cor. 4:1-2

Have you ever sighed, "I wish my church could be more like the church of the first century"? Perhaps you have in mind a small, closely knit community of believers who are radically committed to each other and, despite their number, are turning the community upside down with the gospel. What an exciting ideal! Unfortunately, the reality of the first churches probably wouldn't match it.

The church at Corinth is a good case in point. It had several excellent teachers and leaders, yet it struggled with the same problems many churches face today. The Corinthian church was an example of what churches look like, made up as they are of sinners saved by grace.

Depending on your expectations, 1 Corinthians can make for encouraging reading. This letter points to the fact that there is no instant spirituality. Discipleship is a process. So if you and other believers around you sometimes seem less than Christ like, take heart! The Corinthians have walked this path before you. Despite their shortcomings, they held a special place in the heart of those who knew them best and helped them get started in the faith.

Author

Paul, the Apostle. The writing is Paul's style, and the description of Corinth and its people fit Paul's day. In A.D. 96 Clement of Rome referred to the Corinthian letter in a letter that he himself wrote: "Take up the Epistle of the blessed Paul, the apostle."

Date

Uncertain. Probably A.D. 54-56 on Paul's third missionary journey.

To Whom it is Written

“To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus” (1 Cor. 1:2).

Purpose

Paul wrote this letter for three reasons:

1. To draw the church back together in a spirit of unity as one body in Christ. The church was severely divided and split, feuding and arguing and forming cliques.
2. To deal with moral carelessness in the church.
3. To answer certain questions the church had. Questions concerning marriage, Christian liberty and rights, public worship, spiritual gifts, and the resurrection from the dead.

Structure of the Lesson

The emphasis of this lesson is not only on studying the passage, but also on how to practically apply these principles in our lives today. If your desire is to get the most out of this study, it is important to complete the entire lesson each week. These lessons will then be discussed in group form.

If you are a believer who wants to live a radically transformed life, you have come to the right place! Strap on your safety belts and prepare for a great time together in God’s Word!

Our prayer is that these lessons will be a blessing to you, and that they will stimulate you to further growth as you build, guard and live for the Lord. Invest your life in those things that count for eternity, not for the things that will pass away.

Some Well Known Scriptures from 1 Corinthians

1 Cor. 1:20 “Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?”

1 Cor. 1:23-24 “but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

1 COR. 3:12-13 “Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear;”

1 Cor. 6:12 “All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

1 Cor. 6:19 “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”

1 Cor. 9:22 “to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.”

1 Cor. 10:12-13 “Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

1 COR. 13:13 “And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

1 Cor. 15:55 “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”