

Online Only Via Facebook Live Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm



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Bible Study Schedule Oct - Nov 2021

| Date | Study Title | Scriptures |
|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| 10/13/2021 | Built To Last | Eph. 2:11 – 22 |
| 10/20 /2021 | Everyone's Involved | I Cor. 12 |
| 10/27/2021 | Everyone's Invited | Philemon |
| 11/3/2021 | Community Commissioned | Luke 10:1 – 20 |
| 11/10/2021 | And They'll Will Know We Are Christians | John 13:1 – 17; 34 – 35 |
| 11/17/2021 | We Gather | Psalm 100 |
| 11/24/2021 | Thanksgiving Break | No Study |

This Week's Lesson – October 20, 2021

Christian Community: Being, Knowing, Doing Lesson 2:

Everyone's Involved

I Corinthians 12



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Overview Of The Church of Corinth



- Corinth was the leading commercial center of southern Greece. A low moral tone and sexual perversion were characteristics of the city.
- The church was formed as a result of Paul's preaching in during his 2nd missionary journey (Acts 18:1–11).
 - Paul's 1st letter was written to address the sin and worldliness that marred the life of this church.
- Paul's 2nd letter commended them for responding positively to correction and to defend his Apostleship.

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Introduction To Paul's 1st Letter To The Corinthians

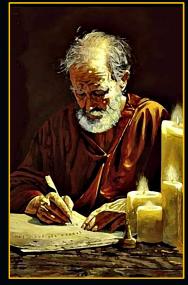
Author: 1 Cor. 1:1 identifies the author of the Book as the apostle Paul.

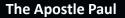
Date of Writing: Approximately A. D. 55.

Purpose of Writing: This 1st letter to the Corinthians to restore the church to its foundation—Jesus Christ.

Practical Application:

- It is wise to heed Paul's warnings and corrections to the Church in Corinth and apply them to ourselves.
- Genuine Christian love is the answer to many problems (Ch. 13).
- A proper understanding of the resurrection of Christ, (Ch. 15) and our own, cures what divides and defeats us.





Christian Community

Being, Knowing, Loing

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What Are Spiritual Gifts?

Charisma (Gk): Extraordinary gifts of the Spirit bestowed upon Christians to equip them for the service of the church. (Cf. Rom 12, I Cor 12, Eph. 4)

| Speaking | Serving | Signing |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Prophesy | Leadership | Healings |
| Knowledge | Helps | Languages |
| Wisdom | Giving | Interpretations |
| Teaching | Mercy | Miracles |
| Exhortation | Faith | |
| | Discernment | |



Read I Corinthians 12:1 - 11

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1. Contrast the Corinthians' previous lives as pagans and their present lives as Christian believers (vv. 1-3).

Previous Pagan Lives

- Worldly: As Gentiles without Christ they were only concerned with worldly/fleshly things.
- Idolatry: False worship of false gods, ungodly people, things and attitudes/worldview.
- Haphazardly: Lives that are without meaning or eternal purpose.



"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God"

1. Contrast the Corinthians' previous lives as pagans and their present lives as Christian believers (vv. 1-3).

Present Christian Lives

- <u>Biblically:</u> They were changed by hearing of Word/Gospel of Christ.
- Spiritually: The Spirit of Christ is One guiding their lives into worship, praise and truth.
- Purposefully: Everyone in Christ now has purpose in Christ for their lives individually and collectively.



"Then we will no longer be infants, Instead, ... we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." (Eph. 4:14-15)

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- 2. Given the common source of all spiritual gifts, what should be their results (vv. 4-7)?
- <u>Diversity:</u> Appreciation for all people (despite race, age, gender, etc.) and their various talents/gifts.
- Unity: Everyone using their gifts not for personal gain/notoriety, but for the Glory of God.
- **Spirituality:** The motivation and the manifestation of the gifts is driven by the Spirit and love for God.
- Profitability: Since God gives the gifts according to His will, everyone in the church benefits.



"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights..." Jam. 1: 17 (NKJV)

3. What factors might cause the outcome to be otherwise?

When believers are proud, judgmental the use of the Spirit's gifts leads to self-promotion, divisiveness and jealousy.

- Pride: Believing that the gifts you have are because of you not from the Grace of God.
- <u>Judgmental</u>: Thinking you are better or more spiritual than others with differing gifts.
- <u>Selfishness:</u> When people use their gift for their own glory instead of God's division occurs.



Note: Gifts from the Holy Spirit should promote "the common good" (v. 7). They should bring unity, for they come from the same God.

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- 4. How do each of the gifts mentioned in verses 8-10 contribute to the unity of the church?
- Word Of Wisdom: Applying the wisdom of God's Word enables us to have One standard to address issues.
- Word Of Knowledge: Using God's Spiritual insight from God's Word help us see local and world events from God's Perspective
- Faith: Helps us to move together into the great things that God has in store for His Church.



• Gifts Of Healings: Help us to collectively seek and trust God to bring healing to the sick and afflicted.

- 4. How do each of the gifts mentioned in verses 8-10 contribute to the unity of the church?
- Working Of Miracles: Helps us to together believe that God is able and willing to do the impossible.
- **Prophecy:** Helps us conform our mission and ministry to God's purpose declared in His Word.
- <u>Discerning Of Spirits:</u> Help to give us confidence that we cannot be fooled by those disguising as "Angels of Lights"
- <u>Different Kinds Of Tongues:</u> Whether earthly or heavenly languages we have confidence to speak truth to all people everywhere.



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- 4. How do each of the gifts mentioned in verses 8-10 contribute to the unity of the church?
- Interpretation Of Tongues: Taking earthly or heavenly languages and interpreting the Word of God to reach all people.

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." I Pet. 2:5 (NKJV)



Read I Corinthians 12:12 - 31

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- 5. In what ways is the human body an appropriate metaphor for the church of Jesus?
- Natural Arrangement: Just the natural Body functions according the Makers design, the Body of Christ does so as well.
- Mutual Dependence: Each part of our physical body while different is dependent on each other. The same is true for the Church.
- Equal Importance: Every part whether seen or unseen is important to the overall health of the whole body.



"...so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another." (Rom. 12: 5)

- 6. How should each of us be personally encouraged by the truth about gifts in verse 18?
- Inclusion By God: God has personally and loving picked us to play a special role in the mission of the Church.
- Provision From God: Our spiritual gifts are graciously given by God to fulfill our calling and purpose.
- Satisfaction Of God: When we use whatever gifts we have, no matter no matter how small, pleases God.



"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord. (Matt. 25:23)

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- 7. According to Paul, how can we how can we avoid divisions in the church (vv. 21 25)?
- Focus on the Right Resources. We have Christ word, love, and fellowship with the Spirit.
- <u>Develop the Right Attitudes.</u> We must have the same mind—the mind of a servant unified in the purpose of the gospel.
- <u>Develop the Right Practices.</u> We must forsake selfish ambition and vain conceit esteeming others better than ourselves.



"...let each esteem other better than themselves...Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus Phil 2: 3,5 (NKJV)

- 8. How will you seek "the greater gifts"?
- <u>Seek Earnestly:</u> Be zealous in seeking "greater gifts" with a desire to do more for the Kingdom of God.
- <u>Seek Expectantly:</u> Believing by faith, that God will provide you with the gifts you are asking for.
- <u>Seek Gracefully:</u> Trusting in his grace to give us only what we need for what He has called us to do.
- <u>Seek With Right Priority:</u> Understanding that spiritual gifts are used for His glory and not ours.



Note: God is infinitely wise, and He knows through which gifts you will be most productive for His kingdom.

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Keys For Living

- Every born-again believer has at least one Spiritual Gift (most of us have multiple gifts) that are used for the building up of God's Church.
- Not matter how insignificant or extravagant our gifts are, each one is necessary for the church, Body of Christ, to function properly.



 Believers will experience exceeding great joy when they know and are edifying the Church by using the spiritual gifts God has given.

