






**The Temple of Praise
Wednesday Night Bible Study
Study Guide
The Book of Corinthians**

 **Bible Study Guide: 1 Corinthians**

PART 1: BACKGROUND

The City of Corinth

- A major Greek city known for:
 - Wealth 
 - Diversity 
 - Immorality 
- A place where culture clashed with Christianity

The church had to learn how to live for God in a very ungodly environment

Paul and the Church

- Paul started the church during his second missionary journey (Acts 18)
- Stayed 1.5 years teaching them
- Later received bad reports from Chloe's household

Result:



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Paul writes 1 Corinthians (around 53–55 AD) to correct them

PURPOSE OF THE LETTER

Paul writes to address:

- ✗ Division
- ✗ Sin
- ✗ Confusion about truth
- ✗ Spiritual immaturity

But also to:

- ✓ Remind them who they are in Christ
- ✓ Call them back to unity
- ✓ Rebuild their foundation

The books of 1 Corinthians and 2 Corinthians were written by the Apostle Paul, with assistance in the first letter and Timothy in the second. Addressed to the early Christian community in Corinth, Greece, these letters were composed around A.D. 53–57 during Paul's missionary journeys. 1 Corinthians deal with internal church issues such as divisions, immorality, lawsuits, and misunderstandings about spiritual gifts and resurrection, aiming to restore unity and proper conduct among believers. 2 Corinthians are more personal and emotional, defending Paul's



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apostleship and reflecting on suffering, generosity, and reconciliation. Together, they provide a vivid picture of early Christian life, church discipline, and the pastoral heart of Paul's ministry.

PART 2: KEY THEMES (CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER)

◆ CHAPTER 1: Identity & Division

Who They Are

- Sanctified in Christ
- Called to be saints
- Set apart from the world

You are not just saved you are set apart with purpose

The Problem: Division

- People picking sides:
 - Paul
 - Apollos
 - Cephas (Peter)
 - Even “Christ” (in prideful ways)

Paul's Message:

“Be united. Speak the same thing.”



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Wisdom Clash

- The cross looks foolish to the world
- But it is God's power

Key Fact:

God uses the “weak” to expose the “strong”

◆ **CHAPTER 2: True Wisdom**

Paul's Approach

- Not flashy preaching
- Not trying to impress
- Focused only on Jesus crucified

So their faith would be in God's power not human ability



The Holy Spirit

- Only the Spirit reveals truth
- Natural people cannot understand spiritual things



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Spiritual understanding is not about intelligence it's about connection to God

◆ **CHAPTER 3: Spiritual Immaturity**




Carnal Christians

- Acting like the world
- Fighting, jealous, divided

Paul says:

You should be growing but you're still immature

Leaders' Roles

- Paul plants 
- Apollos waters 
- God gives growth 

Don't idolize people God is the source

The Foundation



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- Only foundation = Jesus Christ

Everything you build on top of that foundation will be tested

- Strong foundation = Christ
- Weak foundation = anything else
- ♦ **CHAPTER 4: Servanthood & Humility
True Leaders**
- Not celebrities
- Not competitors
- Servants of God

Key Traits:

- Faithfulness
- Humility



Judging Others

- Don't judge prematurely
- Only God sees the heart



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God values faithfulness over popularity

◆ **CHAPTER 5: Dealing with Sin**

Serious Issue

- Sexual immorality tolerated (even incest)

Paul's Response:

- Confront it
- Remove unrepentant sin

“A Little Leaven...”

- Small sin spreads fast

What you tolerate will eventually control the culture

◆ **CHAPTER 6: Living as Redeemed People**



Lawsuits Among Believers

- Christians taking each other to court

Paul says:

Handle issues within the church



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Your Body = God's Temple

- You are indwelt by the Holy Spirit

You were bought with a price (Jesus' sacrifice)

 **Sexual Sin Warning**

- It harms your own body
- It dishonors God

Your body is not just yours it belongs to God

PART 3: CORE LIFE LESSONS

 **1. Identity Before Behavior**

You act differently when you understand who you are

 **2. Unity Over Ego**

Division often comes from pride, not truth

 **3. Christ Is the Only Foundation**

Everything else will eventually collapse



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 **4. Growth Is Expected**

Staying spiritually immature is not normal

 **5. Holiness Matters**

Grace doesn't mean ignoring sin

 **6. You Represent God**

Your life is a reflection of Him

 **REFLECTION + DISCUSSION**

1. What am I building my life on right now?
2. Where do I see division or pride in myself?
3. Am I spiritually growing or stuck?
4. Is there any sin I've been ignoring?
5. Do my daily choices reflect that I belong to God?

FINAL TAKEAWAY



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The Corinthian church struggled because they tried to follow Christ while still living like the world.

God's call is clear:

- 👉 Be different
- 👉 Be unified
- 👉 Be built on Jesus

God doesn't remove every struggle, but He uses every struggle to transform you.

◆ **CHAPTER 1: Suffering & God's Comfort**

Paul's Reality

- Paul experienced deep suffering and pressure
- He felt overwhelmed even near despair

God

- Called "the God of all comfort"
- Comforts us so we can comfort others

Your pain has purpose it equips you to help others



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Key Lesson

- Suffering teaches us:
 - Not to trust ourselves
 - But to trust God who raises the dead



CHAPTER 2: Forgiveness & Spiritual Awareness

The Sinning Person

- Someone in the church had sinned
- Discipline happened but now restoration was needed



Forgive & Restore

- Don't hold grudges
- Show love after correction

So Satan doesn't gain an advantage

Key Lesson

- Bitterness = open door
- Forgiveness = spiritual protection



CHAPTERS 3 & 4: Old vs New Covenant



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CHAPTER 3: Two Ways of Living

Old Covenant	New Covenant
Law	Spirit
Condemnation	Righteousness
Fading glory	Lasting glory

The law shows sin but the Spirit transforms lives