

“GETTING ALONG” BY “GROWING UP”

I Corinthians 16:5-12, 24

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Carnality, the source of childish conflicts that table a believer:
1. The focus – self (pronouns): (*I Cor. 3:4*)
 2. The heart condition – unconfessed sin: (*I Cor. 3:3; I Thes. 5:19; I Jn. 1:9*)
 3. The visible symptom – lack of spiritual growth: (*I Cor. 3:1-2*)
 4. The eternal consequences – lack of fruit – works and motives judged: (*I Cor. 3:12-15*)
- B. The new way of living that grows you up, into being fruitful: (*I Pet. 2:2*)
1. Addressing your deceitful heart: (*Jer. 17:9; Rom. 12:3*)
 2. Addressing prompt obedience to the Word: (*Mt. 7:24-27; Ja. 1:22-24*)
 3. Addressing your need to be a discipling disciple: (*Lk. 14:26; II Cor. 8:5*)
- C. The dependency of Grace's future resting on disciplers: (*Jn. 20:21*)
- 1.
 - 2.

II. DIRECTIVES FOR “GROWING UP” THE CONGREGATION:

- A. The need for clear direction: **vv. 5, 8**
- 1.
 - 2.
- B. The need for personal involvement: **vv. 6-7** (*See Mk. 3:13-14*)
- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- C. The need to trust God's sovereignty: **v. 7**
- 1.
 - 2.
- D. The need for transparency: **v. 9** (*II Cor. 1:8*)
- 1.
 - 2.
- E. The need for realistic expectations: **vv. 10-11**
- 1.
 - 2.
- F. The need for flexibility: **v. 12**
- 1.
 - 2.
- G. The need to genuinely love unconditionally: **v. 24**
- 1.
 - 2.

"Love is above all, sacrificial. It is a sacrifice of self for the sake of others, even for others who may care nothing at all for us and who may even hate us. It is not a feeling but a determined act of the will, which always results in determined acts of self-giving, without and appetite for recognition. Love is the willing, joyful desire to put the welfare of others above our own. Love is not an emotional attraction, but a selfless, humble service to meet another's need, no matter how lowly the service or how undeserving the person served."

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

A.

B.

C.

SINNERS PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, I was made by you and I was made for you, but I have been living for myself. I am sorry for that self-rule you call sin. I believe that Jesus Christ being my creator God, died, was buried, and rose again to pay the insurmountable debt that my sin has created since birth. So right now, I am turning from a life of going my own way, to by faith, place my trust in Jesus Christ, to pay the debt of all my sin, and to get me to heaven, when I breath my last breath. Lord Jesus, from today on, I am yours. Thanks for saving me, this very moment, in Jesus name, amen.