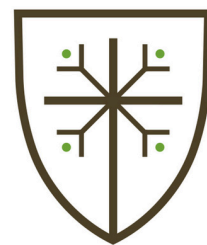


# Lacking Nothing

A Sermon Series on 1 Corinthians

## SERMON NOTES



June 1, 2025

### SERMON INFO

#### TITLE

"Lacking Nothing"

#### PREACHER

Rev. Tim Frickenschmidt

#### TEXTS

Acts 1:1-5, 9-11

1 Corinthians 1:4-11

Luke 24:44-53

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When do you find it most difficult to believe Paul's message, "you lack nothing"?
2. How does beginning with thanks help us to remember that we lack nothing in Christ?

### SERMON IN SUMMARY

This Sunday, we celebrated Jesus' ascension into heaven, and Tim began a new series on the book of 1 Corinthians. He started with the question, "What do you need that you don't have?"

#### Eucharist

The first word in Paul's letter to the Corinthian church is *eucharisto*, which means "to give thanks." It is the root of our word Eucharist and ultimately describes what we are doing when we partake in the Lord's Supper—giving thanks to God for His gifts to us and our participation in them. Paul begins by giving thanks for the church in Corinth.

This church, as we see later in the letter, was full of moral struggles—including drunkenness, gluttony, vanity, and other sins common to Corinthian culture. And yet, Paul begins by thanking God for them and for the spiritual gifts given to them so that they might serve others. Paul knows they know the Lord, and that their moral struggles are not the final word.

This is exactly the opposite of how the members of the Corinthian church relate to one another. They immediately focus on everything that needs correcting in each other, which leads to divisions and quarreling. This is the definition of spiritual warfare. Satan is the one who refuses to see any good gift or anything that reflects God. As Christians, we are called to be the opposite. We are called to be, first and foremost, people of thanks.

#### Charisma

Paul gives thanks that this church is not lacking in charisma—from the Greek *kharis*, meaning favor or grace. Corinth was a very impressive city—rich, cosmopolitan, and powerful. Paul's statement about the church lacking nothing could be taken in two ways. The first is the Corinthian way. Corinth's abundance of wealth and beauty led people to look around and feel that they were lacking, that they didn't have all they needed, which led to division. Sin is a power that seeks to tear apart everything God has brought together, including His church in Corinth.

The second way to view "lacking nothing" is the way Paul exhorts the church to see it—that we lack nothing because God has filled us up, gifted us with forgiveness and acceptance. When we sense lack in our lives, we act out in all kinds of harmful ways and begin to grasp for more. Paul says this must stop—and it can stop—if we believe the words: "You lack nothing." There is nothing left for us to grasp after, nothing left over which to compete, because in God, we lack nothing.