

KEY THOUGHTS

- There are many things we pick up without even trying, like learning an accent. But there are other things that will only be developed if we do things ON PURPOSE.
- In Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, clearly there were a host of people there who were just "picking up" traits of Christianity without effort, and it left them lacking. Multiple verses throughout show their lack of growth (1 Corinthians 3:3, 4:5, 5:6, 6:18 and more). They needed a better way, and it's available.
- 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 is our focus for the next weeks. 5 short, packed commands: Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong. Do everything in love.
- "Be on the alert." While being alert is easy in the short term, it's wearisome over a period of time. Alert watching is tiresome, therefore it only happens with vigilance, on purpose.
- What are we watching for?
- The enemy 1 Peter 5:8
- Our own weaknesses Proverbs 4:23 and Jeremiah 17:9
- The world around us John 15:19 and 1 John 2:15
- His return Matthew 24:42
- See below for some practical helps

SCRIPTURES

-] 1 Corinthians 16:13-14
-] 1 Peter 5:8
- Proverbs 4:23
- Jeremiah 17:9
- 🗌 John 15:19
-] 1 John 2:15
- Matthew 24:42

Practical & Reflection

Pray daily for a watchful spirit. Early in your day use this as a daily "call to arms."

Know what's right. It's the best way to detect what's not. Invest time in God's word and being surrounded by godly examples. Know the way of Jesus!

Fight idleness and distraction.