

Sunday Sermon | Calvary Chapel Waterford  
1 Corinthians 3 Sermon Outline Pastor Tom Zimbelman

*Theme: From Babies to Adults*

**1. Facing Spiritual Immaturity – 1 Corinthians 3:1–4**

- *Saved, yet stagnant: spiritual infancy lingering too long*
- *Carnal living defined by envy, strife, and division*
- *Distinction between fleshly beginnings and fleshly surrender*
- *Growth hindered by clinging to worldly thinking*

**2. Focusing on God's Workers – 1 Corinthians 3:5–9**

- *Servants are instruments, not objects of faith*
- *God alone produces spiritual growth*
- *Unity in purpose despite different roles*
- *The church as God's field and God's building*

**3. Building with Eternal Materials – 1 Corinthians 3:10–15**

- *Foundation is Jesus Christ alone*
- *Build with what is eternal, not temporary*
- *Works tested by fire for reward, not salvation*
- *Call to examine motives and materials carefully*

**4. Being God's Sacred Temple – 1 Corinthians 3:16–17**

- *The church as the dwelling place of God's Spirit*
- *Holiness is essential to God's people*
- *Warning against corrupting God's temple*
- *Serious accountability for spiritual deception*

**5. Belonging to Christ Alone – 1 Corinthians 3:18–23**

- *Reject worldly wisdom to gain true wisdom*
- *Boasting in men exposes spiritual deception*
- *All things belong to believers in Christ*
- *Identity anchored fully in Christ, not leaders*

## **Scripture Cross References (NKJV)**

### **1 Corinthians 3**

**Hebrews 5:13–14:** *For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

**Mark 4:26–27:** *And He said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how.”*

**Psalms 115:1:** *Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth.*

**John 3:3:** *Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*

**Proverbs 3:13–15:** *Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding; For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.*

**2 Corinthians 5:10:** *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

**1 Peter 1:6–7:** *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ*

**Matthew 18:6–7:** *“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of offenses!*