

# the first letter to the CORINTHIANS

The Gospel shaped community

## What is the series about?

We'll be working our way through the 1st Letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth. This series will cover what a Gospel shaped community looks like in many areas of life including relationships, sex, food, the gathered church, and the resurrection.

## Listen to the audio

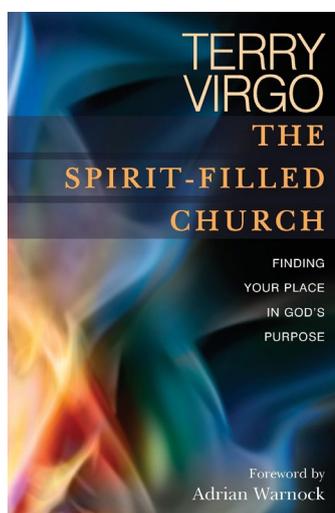
On the King's Norwich app or at: [kingsnorwich.com/1corinthians](https://kingsnorwich.com/1corinthians)

## Check out the blog

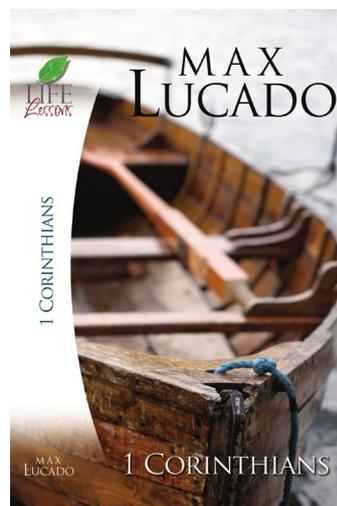
[kingsnorwich.com/blog](https://kingsnorwich.com/blog)

## Recommended Reading

The Spirit Filled Church  
Terry Virgo



Life Lessons: 1 Corinthians  
Max Lucado



the first letter to the

# CORINTHIANS

## **Title: My Rights?**

Speaker: Goff Hope (City Centre & Mile Cross) Bible Ref: 1Cor 9 vs1-18

## **Overview**

The church in Corinth is not doing well; there's bad relationships, immorality etc and Paul has been bringing correction. This has not been received well & they respond by scrutinizing Paul who now defends his rights as an apostle only to say he has no interest in claiming his rights! Because, he argues, claiming rights hinders the Gospel & his priority is sharing the Gospel. Also, this arguing of rights has clearly damaged their relationship – it always does. It also robs us of gifts if we are locked into thinking of what we deserve. Lastly this approach to life actually denies the Gospel because at the heart of the Gospel is the fact that we could never even live up to our own standards. Paul concludes that he's done with this way of life. How did he get free? He tasted undeserved Grace of God & it changed him. It always does.

## **Questions to help your group understand the truth preached**

On Sundays we hear God's word preached and as we listen well we trust that God is changing us in the moment. Use these questions to further explore the truth that was taught.

1. Why do you think Paul felt it appropriate to defend himself to the Corinthian church?
2. What does this infer about the way they were now viewing Paul?
3. What do you think motivated Paul to preach the Gospel to this extent? See verse 16

## **Questions to help your group apply the truth preached**

When applied, God's Word will enable us to love God and to love others. These questions will help your group apply the truth understood in a way that leads to transformed lives.

1. How easy are you (&!!) to correct?
2. Why do you think insisting on our rights is so destructive to our relationships?
3. I gave an illustration from Paddington Bear 2 to illustrate how extending unexpected & undeserved grace changes people. To who & how could you extend grace right now?

## **Questions to help your group dig deeper**

Having understood the truth preached, and explored how it can be applied to your lives why not dig a little deeper and ask your group the following questions:

1. Are there situations where it is appropriate insist on our rights?
2. If so, what might be an appropriate, righteous way of doing so?
3. How can we help one another to be better at receiving correction?