

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

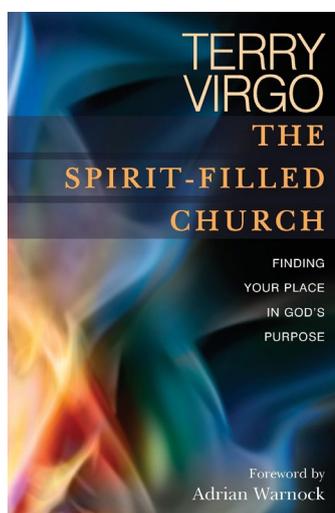
On the King's Norwich app or at: kingsnorwich.com/1corinthians

Check out the blog

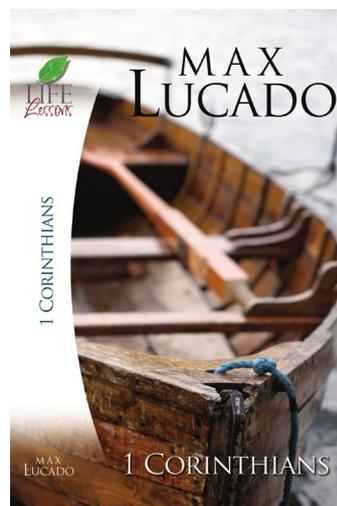
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Recommended Reading

The Spirit Filled Church
Terry Virgo



Life Lessons: 1 Corinthians
Max Lucado



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Title: How Churches Grow

Speaker: Goff Hope (City Centre & City West) Bible Ref: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-15

Overview

The church at Corinth had lost sight of what the church is, as seen by their behavior. Paul seeks to remind them & warn them as to how they should serve the church & how it grows.

1. The church is family, God's family. See v1 'Brothers & sisters', phrase used 22 times.
2. The church grows as we understand we're all just servants. See v5, Jesus washed feet.
3. Like Paul, we too are saved and graced or gifted for a specific purpose, see v5 & v10.
4. The church is God's field, we are fellow laborers, but God gives the increase, the harvest.
5. The church is God's building. 'Church' means 'called out ones', it's a building of people, no longer the temple so be careful how you speak & build. Jesus is coming back for His church.

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. What mistakes were the church in Corinth making about leadership?
2. Although Paul is addressing Christians he calls them worldly. What does he mean?
3. We rarely speak of Christians being rewarded. What do you think verses 14 & 15 mean?

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 do you think we could strengthen the sense of family to help people feel they belong?
2. In what ways do you think God has gifted you to serve the church family?
3. 'Harvest' in the NT speaks of people coming to Christ. What part could you play in the harvest?

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. Having good 'foundations' as a Christian and as a church is clearly important to Paul (see v10) What do you think Paul preached & taught when he was founding the Church?
2. V13 implies Paul assumed that his readers knew all about 'the Day'. What was in mind?