

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

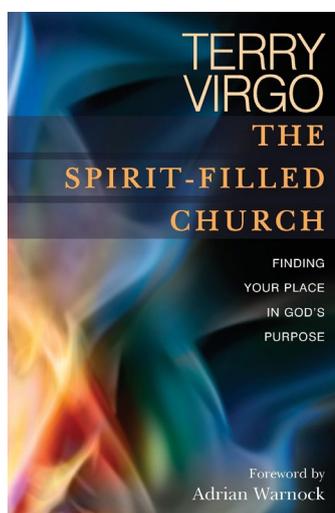
On the King's Norwich app or at: kingsnorwich.com/1corinthians

Check out the blog

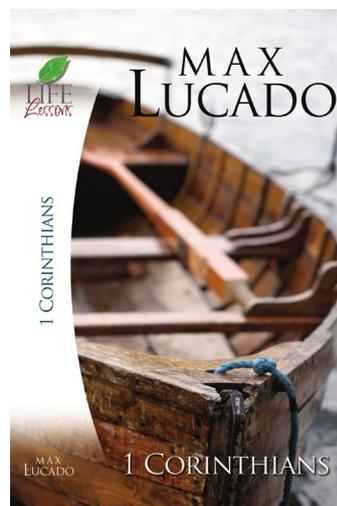
kingsnorwich.com/blog

Recommended Reading

The Spirit Filled Church
Terry Virgo



Life Lessons: 1 Corinthians
Max Lucado



CORINTHIANS

the first letter to the

Title: God's True Temple

Speaker: Marcus Tutt (City Centre & Mile Cross)

Bible Ref: 1 Corinthians 3: 16-17

Overview

"You" here is plural, ie KJV "ye". Together, the church in Corinth was the temple of God. Paul expected them to know this and live it out. At the center of Solomon's, Ezekiel's and Herod's temple was an inner Holy of Holies, 20x20x20 cubits overlaid with gold and engraved with palm trees, flowers and cherubim. There were various courts, candle sticks, pillars and pomegranates. A temple is a meeting place between God and people (2 Chr 6:2,18). A place where God's heavenly home and our earthly abode overlap. The Bible starts with two people in a garden temple and ends with multitudes in a massive city sized Holy of Holies. Adam and Eve sinned and their commission to fill the earth with God's presence failed. The tabernacle and the stone temples pointed to Jesus who would be the corner stone of God's true temple, the church, filling the earth with God's people and presence until his return.

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 is it important that we know the "you" is plural rather than singular?
2. In what way was Jesus the true temple? (*Mt 23:37-39; Mt 24:1-2; Jn 2:18-22*)
3. What does it mean for the church to be God's temple? (*Eph 2:19-22*)

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. Why is it helpful for us at King's to be reminded that we are God's temple?
2. How can we prioritize God's presence among us?
3. How can those outside the church experience God's presence through us? (*Mt 18:19-20; Is 56:7; Mt 21:13; Mk 11:17; 2 Chr 5:12-14; Jn 13:35; Heb 10:25; Lk 19:5; 1 Cor 14:25; Mt 13:58; Rom 10:14; Mt 5:44; Col 3:13; Eph 4:32; Gal 5:22; ...*)

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:

4. What indications are there in the Bible that the Garden of Eden and the City in Revelation are temples? (*Gn 2-3; Rev 21:1-16; Ezk 43:7*)
5. What is the significance of rivers and streams in temples? (*Gn 2:10; Ezk 47:1-12; Rv 22:1; Jn 7:37-38*)
6. What other concepts/images/metaphors does the Bible use to describe the church? How do they effect/shape us?