

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

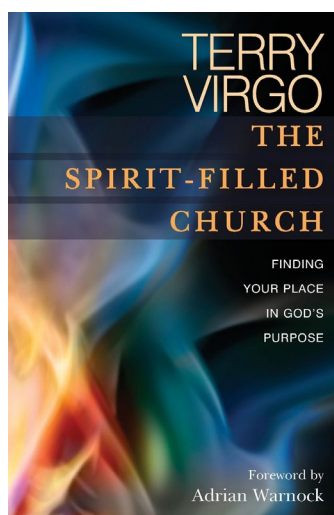
On the King's Norwich app or at: kingsnorwich.com/1corinthians

Check out the blog

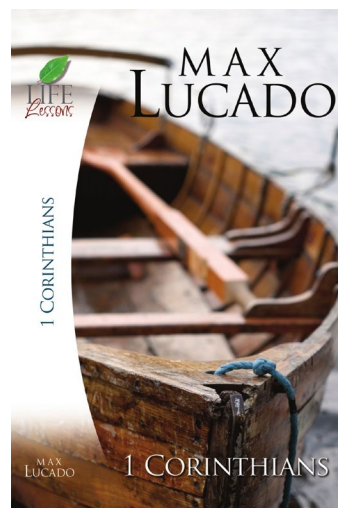
kingsnorwich.com/blog

Recommended Reading

The Spirit Filled Church
Terry Virgo



Life Lessons: 1 Corinthians
Max Lucado



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Title: Following Jesus in Uncertain Days

Speaker: Goff Hope Bible Ref: 1Cor 16: 15 vs1-23, 51-58

Overview

Corinthian church was taking on Greek thought: there's no literal resurrection day, it's spiritual. Paul reacts strongly, why? It's hugely important, fundamental to Gospel, basis of creeds. **Is your vision too small?** Isn't it enough that Jesus dies for our sins? Couldn't his spirit have gone straight to heaven? NO says Paul. If God didn't vindicate Jesus by raising him from death, we'd have no confidence our sins were forgiven AND death would not be defeated. Jesus *was* raised in a bodily form, defeating death, so will we be, all creation will be renewed. **Big Vision** v51 It's important we have a big vision re future. Heavenly glory will break out on this world! All the nations will see the glory of Jesus! We & all creation will be changed! **Dear friends**, if you know this you can be steady, unmoved, fruitful in a fear-full world. See v58

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 does 1Cor ch15 tell us about the value of reading & knowing Biblical truth?
2. Why does it matter whether or not risen Jesus could be touched, ate food etc? Luke 24:39
3. What does this chapter say about our ultimate hope as followers of Jesus?

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. If you are fearful about the future (yours or the world around) how does this passage help?
2. Verse 58 is key. What difference should the truth of this chapter make to our lives?
3. What ways does the enemy use to try to unsettle, move you to be fearful?

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. I guess I ought to comment on verse 29 just in case someone reads it!! It's notoriously difficult to interpret. There is no evidence of people being baptized on behalf of others plus it goes totally against Paul's teaching. Principle: always interpret the difficult / unclear parts of scripture in the light of the clear. Best interpretation I have read is that some people are prompted to become Christians, give their lives to Christ & be baptized because someone close to them died and they are awakened to eternal things, and hope to see the deceased again. Last word: it's ok to admit that you don't fully understand everything in the Bible!