



GROUP STUDY GUIDE

WEEK OF JUNE 30, 2024 | SABOTAGED FROM WITHIN

WARM-UP QUESTION

Think of a time when you approached a conflict in a healthy way or someone approached a conflict with you in a healthy way. What stands out to you about the way it was handled?

DISCUSS

Start your discussion by sharing what stood out to you from Sunday's sermon. Were there any new insights or key takeaways for you?

Read Matthew 28:18-20 and talk through it using the POST method

- Pray and Prepare: Prayer helps us to focus our hearts and minds. Ask God to help you hear what He's saying and that you would pursue Him. Prepare by watching [the Matthew overview video](#) from the Bible Project or many study Bibles include an overview at the beginning of each book.
- Observe: This can take many forms! Here are some ideas to get you started:
 - Underline repeated words or phrases
 - Answer the questions who, what, when, where and why
 - Look for cultural and historical ideas
- Seek Out: Try reading the passage in three translations: NLT, ESV, and The Message. Then after you've spent time with the passage on your own, we encourage you to use resources like commentaries, study Bibles, and more.
- Take Action: By now, you should be able to answer the first two questions from inductive study: what does the passage say and what does it mean? Now it's time to move to application and answer the question, "What do I need to do to obey?"

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

- How does Paul introduce himself? Why do you think he included information about who he is in his introduction?
- Who is Paul talking to in this letter? What does he remind his recipients about themselves?
- What is Paul's tone?
- What stands out to you about Paul's words in verse 3? It might be easy to skip over this verse in our reading. What's the danger in skipping over it? What can we learn from Paul's words here?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

- What do you notice in these verses? Where do you see repetition? What do you think the repetition is trying to teach us?
- What is Paul thankful for? What is he affirming within the Corinthian church?
- Why do you think Paul mentions spiritual gifts? Why would the church need them to remain strong in their current culture?
- Paul mentions Jesus a lot in these verses. Observe each time he mentions Jesus – what is he saying about Jesus? What do we learn about Jesus and God through this passage?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-16

- What hard truth is Paul sharing with the Corinthian church?
- Look back at the previous verses in this passage. How did Paul set up the hard truths he was about to share? Do you think the way he set up the passage made it easier for the people to hear? Why or why not (find examples in the passage to back up your answer)?
- Why does unity in the church matter? What role does Jesus play in that unity?
- What does it look like for the church to be unified? Where have you seen examples of this in your own life?
- In order to fight for unity, Paul had to share hard truths with people he loved. How can we learn from this example and apply to our own conflicts with other believers? How would your relationships with your family, friends, and Group members change if you approached unity and conflict like Paul models in this passage?

RESPOND

- Based on what you just discussed, what do you think God is prompting you to do in response? When will you do it?
- Pray together as a group for the specific goals or areas of struggle that came up in your discussion. Thank God for revealing more of who He is, and ask Him to help you apply what He's prompting you to do this week.