



## Message Series Guide

### Imperfect Church – I Corinthians

#### Part 28 – Imperfection that Brings Hope

#### I Corinthians 16:1-24

I Corinthians 16 concludes Paul's long letter to the church in Corinth. In this final chapter, Paul offers some practical applications to help maintain unity in the Body. He instructs them on how to prepare a special collection of funds for needy Christians in Jerusalem. He describes his plan to visit them in person after wrapping up his ministry in Ephesus and stopping by churches in Macedonia. He reveals that Timothy and other leaders will be visiting them soon. Finally, Paul commends a team of faithful servants from Corinth that came to minister to him. Paul's final words in the letter are a declaration of love for all.

### READ:

**I Corinthians 16:1-24 • 2 Corinthians 9:11 • I Corinthians 12:26 • Proverbs 16:9 • I Timothy 4:12 • Philippians 2:22 • Galatians 5:1 • Ephesians 6:10 • I Peter 5:8**

- What collection was Paul taking in verses 1-4? What was the collection to be used for? What attitude should we have in our giving? What spiritual discipline(s) do we exercise when we give of our time, talents, and treasures to the Lord?
- Read verses 5-9. Why do Paul's plans to visit Corinth seem somewhat vague or uncertain? Discuss whether it is wise or unwise to plan every detail of our life. Who is ultimately in control of the plans of our life? Give an example of when you had a plan, but God determined your steps.
- What attitude did Paul want the Corinthians to have toward Timothy? Why was he worried about how they might treat Timothy? What attitude should we have toward our Christian leaders, both younger and older?
- According to verses 13-14, what does Paul mean by "be watchful" and "do all things in love?" Why is it important to be watchful and alert in the church today? Referring back to I Corinthians 13, why must all things be done in love? What do verses 19-24 show us about our attitude toward other believers?

### DISCUSS:

- How do you respond when you see someone in need? Why is giving often referred to as an issue of the heart? How can we all continue to become more generous with our time, talents and treasures?
- Do you feel the need to plan every detail of your life, or do you allow opportunity for the Lord to redirect your steps? Why is giving God control often difficult in our daily life?
- What is your internal response when you see a young person preaching or teaching the Word of God? According to Paul's instructions, how should we treat Christian leaders who are younger or less experienced?
- Even though Paul gave them much correction, how do you think the Corinthians felt toward Paul? How do you most often respond to correction? How should we respond to godly instruction and discipline?
- What has been the greatest lesson you have learned from this study of I Corinthians?

### PRAY:

Commit this week to pray the same prayer that Jesus prayed for all believers from John 17:20-21 – "...I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you."

### RESPOND:

As a member of the Body of Christ, commit to always strive for unity in the Body of Christ at The Ridge so that we may experience the peace of God and testify to the power of the Christ's resurrection.



**Sermon Notes**  
**Imperfect Church – I Corinthians**  
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Because God has been abundantly generous to us through His Son, Jesus, we ought to be abundantly generous to others.

We should put everything into God hands: our time, our plans, our hope.

God's work in and through people is not limited by age, experience, their personality or their past.

The Church is not a gallery for perfect Christians, but a group of imperfect people perusing a perfect Savior.