

The Irresistible Calling of the Believer

1 Corinthians 1:1-2 – Discussion Group Leader Handout

Bible Passage

1 Corinthians 1:1–2 (LSB) — **1** Paul, called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, **2** To the church of God, which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called as saints, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

Discussion Questions

- I. Our text describes called believer as “those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus”.
 - a. What is meant by “sanctified” in this verse?
 - i. Set apart
 - b. Does this meaning of sanctified differ from the process of sanctification, and if so, how?
 - c. How does our calling into Christ effect the process of sanctification in our lives?
 - i. Phil 3:14
- II. The believer and the call of God
 - a. What part does the believer play in the calling Paul refers to in our text?
 - i. Titus 3:3-7
 - b. What is the proper attitude of the believer in light of their calling into Christ?
 - i. Humility
 - ii. Thankfulness
 - iii. Other?
 - c. How does a believer live up to the calling of God?
 - i. Phil 3:14
- III. The doctrine of irresistible grace
 - a. How would you explain this doctrine to an unbeliever, and should you?
 - i. 1 Cor 1:18
 - ii. Rom 1:16

- b. Would you consider the doctrine of irresistible grace an essential doctrine, worthy of dividing over with other believers who don't agree with this doctrine? Why?

IV. Bonus Question

- a. What are the five doctrines of grace as indicated in the T.U.L.I.P. acronym?
 - i. Total Depravity
 - ii. Unconditional Election
 - iii. Limited Atonement
 - iv. Irresistible Grace
 - v. Perseverance of the Saints
- b. Discuss them.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that God would help us all to better appreciate our calling, with humility.
- Pray that the Spirit would convict and empower us to walk worthy of our calling.