

STUDY GUIDE WEEK 1



KEY VERSE OF 1 CORINTHIANS

"So now faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."
1 Corinthians 13:13

CONTEXT

As we begin reading 1 Corinthians, it is important to know that this is a letter exchange from Paul to the Church at Corinth. Paul is addressing the church of Corinth directly regarding the many different questions they have that hit on various theology and christian doctrine. The biggest question is in regards to the division this church is experiencing. Paul writes to share with them ultimately how if The Gospel is at the center of what they do, then they will experience unity that only Christ can bring.

If the gospel is the filter for each of these questions, then the pride and Lordship issues are replaced with Christ-like love.

Unfortunately this church was experiencing many fractures and the mending it needed was nothing they could fix in their own power.

The Key Verse of 1 Corinthians is a reminder of what this church needs to know and show. They needed to know love.

1 John 4:7-11 tells us: "Let us love one another, because love is from God and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, because GOD IS LOVE. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His One and Only son into the world so that we might live through Him. Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that He Loved us and sent His Son to be the *propitiation (the means by which our sins are forgiven) for our sins. If God loved us in this way, we must also love one another."

LOVE. This is what removes pride. This is what brings healing in broken people.

A theologian named Vernon McGee says this, "The church is at Corinth, but it is in Christ Jesus. The address of the church is not important, but the person of Christ is all-important. The important question is: Are you in Christ Jesus?"

So as we step into this book for the next 16 weeks, keep that key verse front and center in your heart and mind. There are some tough topics that Paul brings up with the church of Corinth. As we read their mail, ask Jesus to read yours as well. You know what I mean? The Bible is the only book in the world that through The Holy Spirit it reads us as we read it. So if you have questions...write them down. If you are challenged...journal about it on your bible reading pages. This study is not meant to feed you all the answers. It is meant to help get you develop some healthy discipleship habits and bring someone along with you in discipleship. So let's get to it!

OUTLINE

For a helpful overview, checkout the Bible Project's video that quickly outlines all of 1 Corinthians. It may be super helpful to watch this with your girls during the first week.

<http://bit.ly/Bibleprojectoverview>

- 1 Cor. 1:1-9 Greetings and Salutations
- 1 Cor 1:10- 4 DIVISIONS
- 1 Cor 5-7 SEX
- 1 Cor 8-10 FOOD
- 1 Cor 11-14 WORSHIP GATHERINGS
- 1 Cor 15 The Resurrection
- 1 Cor 16 Closing Words



Steph Williford
GIRLS MINISTER

"DO YOU LOOK LIKE JESUS?"

1 CORINTHIANS 1

WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THAT CAN DIVIDE US AS CHRIST-FOLLOWERS?

WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THAT UNITE US AS CHRIST-FOLLOWERS?

IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU GET CAUGHT IN THE COMPARISON TRAP AT CHURCH? AT SCHOOL? AT HOME? EXPLAIN.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BOAST IN THE LORD? HOW CAN YOU DO THIS?

HOW CAN WE BETTER PRAY FOR UNITY AMONGST THIS GROUP?

PRAY

Before you start to read the chapter of the week, ask The Lord to help you read His Word today. Ask Him to teach you today. Ask Him to see things in your own life you can't see. Ask Him to help you take what you read and apply it.

READ

What verses are you reading from today? _____

What version of the bible are you reading it in today? (Try reading it in 3 different translations. Circle the translations you are reading it in below.)

Formal Translations:

"word for word" translation

New American Standard
English Standard Version
Holman Christian Standard
Revised Standard Version
New RSV

Functional Translations:

"Thought for thought"

New International Version
New American Bible
Revised English Bible
Good News Bible
New Living Translation

Free Translations:

"A Paraphrase"

New English Bible
Living Bible
The Message

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Write out what is happening in the verses you read. Put it in your own words.

APPLY

Reflect on what you just read, and walk through these questions with Jesus.

Is there a sin I need to confess to Him and ask Him to forgive me?

Is there a truth that I need to believe today?

Is there a promise that I need to hear and hold on to today?

Is there something I need to ask The Lord to help me live differently because of what I just read?

QUESTIONS

What questions came up when you read the verses today? Were there words or customs that you didn't understand? Write those out. Those are important to not just pass over. Those are some of the ways He calls your attention to something you need to pay attention to in your own life.

PRAY/JOURNAL

Take some time to pray/journal after your time of reading. Ask God to change your heart so that you look more and more like Him and less and less like the world. Ask Him to break your heart for what breaks His heart. Ask Him to help you focus on Him and less on what is all around you.