

STUDY GUIDE WEEK 16



KEY VERSE OF WEEK 16

13 Be alert, stand firm in the faith, act like a man, be strong. 14 Your every action must be done with love.
1 Corinthians 16:13-14

CONTEXT

We did it! We made it to chapter 16! Here's to High Fives, Confetti, and Fireworks, Girl! Make sure you post your pictures of how you finished this study! If you finish AND post a picture tagging @girlsministrycollective before January 31, 2021, we'll send you a special sticker to congratulate you!

As we finish this study, there are some sweet words and challenges that Paul leaves with the Church at Corinth. Paul sometimes ends his letters like you would with a loved one you are saying goodbye to. Erin acknowledges this in this week's video. It's like you are leaving your parents to go to college and they keep remembering one more thing they need to tell you.

In commentaries I found that the list could be divided into 3 sections. Verses 1-4 Paul is talking with the church about an offering. Paul doesn't discuss old testament tithing here, he is suggesting "grace giving". He is saying that the way you give should be connected to the way God has prospered you. Paul wants them to be characterized as givers. That is what Jesus is... He is a giver! We should look like Him in the way that we give. How can we be a blessing with our gifts to the church?

Next, Paul discusses his personal logistics in verses 5-9. I think it is noteworthy to see that Paul did not have this grand strategy for where he is going next. He shares in ver 5-6 that he is letting The Lord lead him. Girl, that is so important to make sure that we are letting the Lord lead us. Plans and strategies are important, but make sure we are spending time asking The Lord what He would have us do next.

Lastly, in verses 10-24 Paul shares about some people that have not been willing to come to Corinth because of the corruption and how they live for Christ and need to be made welcome. And He challenges the Corinthians with some key areas for them to look like Christ and live for Christ in their next steps.

Paul ultimately wants The Corinthians Christians to know that because of The Gospel...because of Christ in them, they should look different to the world. And they have a mission to be Him on display through their generosity and love.

Girls, the same message is for us today! We have a mission. We have a purpose. We have an identity. It is all rooted in Christ and that the resurrection is true. He is alive and He is making all things new! He wants to move in and through your life to put His love and glory on display, but we have to get off the throne of our hearts and surrender our days, our years, our plans, our pride...to Jesus and acknowledge that we need Him.

We need Him. We need Him in 2021. It is our hope and prayer that as you conclude this study you will walk confidently in Him into 2021 and know that even though you don't know how that year will go either, you know He is in control and you can look to Him and ask..."What's next? Where do I go now? How can I be generous in this moment?"

For me, I am asking Jesus how I can be "BOLD, COMPASSIONATE, COURAGEOUS, AND CREATIVE" for Him.

Praying for you, Sis! Follow us on youtube by searching for "Girls Ministry Collective" and subscribing for our future studies and events.



Erin Edwards

GIRLS MINISTER

"STAND FIRM AND HOLD TIGHT
IN YOUR FAITH"

1 CORINTHIANS 16

Erin mentioned about her habit of savoring the last bite of her meals. Let's try to sum up some of the things that we have learned through these 16 chapters. What are some of the "bites" you have savored in these past several weeks?

Erin referenced the Message paraphrase of verses 13-14: "Keep your eyes open, hold tight to your convictions, give it all you've got, be resolute, and love without stopping. Take a moment and underline this passage in your Bible. What emojis or doodles could you use to identify these 5 different challenges that Paul is leaving with the Church of Corinth? For example: For keep your eyes open, you could use these emojis-- 🧐👁️👁️👁️👁️👁️

Let's walk through each of these challenges and give you some time to use these as preparation and prayer as you go into 2021.

Be Alert: Paul wanted the Corinthians to watch out for false teachings. He wanted to make sure that people weren't adding an "&" to the gospel or taking out Jesus. Spend some time talking about ways you can be alert for false teachings and how you can keep watch for where God is at work so you can join Him in His mission.

Stand Firm: How will you "lock arms with each other" as Erin discussed, to help you stand firm?

Grow up--mature: How are you going to intentionally grow in your faith in 2021? You have spent over 16 weeks in His word--GREAT! Keep going. How are you being disciplined and discipling others?

Be strong in the Lord: Be bold and steady in His confidence...not ours. How will you be unwavering in Christ and trust in who He says I am in Him not in what others say I am.

Love without stopping: How will you ask Jesus to help you love without stopping? What and who do you need to remember you are called to love without stopping? It's easy to love some people, but don't stop loving those that are hard to love.

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.