

# Godly Living in a Godless World

A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

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## INTRODUCTION

### Day One

#### READ I CORINTHIANS

To prepare for our study of 1 Corinthians we will need to do some background work.

During our introductory week, we will attempt to gather information to answer the “w” questions: who, what, where, when, and why.

Set aside some time to read the book of 1 Corinthians. Read slowly enough to understand the text and record information that will help you to answer the questions during the rest of the week. Also, as you read, pay special attention to characters, locations, themes, cultural aspects, and repeated words or phrases. You may also record other information that lends insight into Corinth and its people.

Our goal is to understand as much as possible about the background before we engage in our study.

### Day Two

#### READ I CORINTHIANS 1

1. Who authored the book of 1 Corinthians (1:1)?
2. Familiarize yourself with our author by reading the account of his conversion, found in Acts 7-9.

### Day Three

#### READ JOHN 3; ACTS 16; 1 CORINTHIANS 15

With the conversion of the Apostle Paul fresh in your mind, take time to consider your own testimony.

3. What are you relying upon for eternal life?

4. Read John 3:16, Acts 16:30-31, and 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. With these passages in mind, explain what the Bible says is necessary for a person to gain eternal life.
  
5. Perhaps the story of your conversion is not as dramatic as the Apostle Paul's, but that does not detract from its value or efficaciousness. Contemplate the orchestration of people and events in your life that led you to understand your need for a Savior.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Draft your story of trusting Christ in the way you would explain it to someone who has not yet believed.

Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1

7. To whom was the book written (1:2)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Read Acts 18 and summarize the beginning of Paul's ministry in this city.

9. Although you will not find a date in the text for when 1 Corinthians was written, do your best to create a timeline for the penning of the book. Note any hints that help you place it.

Day Five

READ I CORINTHIANS 1

10. Where was the book written (cf. 1 Cor 16: 8)?
11. Why did Paul write this letter to the Corinthians (1:11)?
12. What was the purpose of the book?





Day One

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-3

1. Start the week off by reading 1 Corinthians chapter one. In a few sentences summarize the main ideas you notice in the first chapter.
2. According to verse one, what was Paul's title and by whom was it given?
3. Who are the recipients of Paul's letter?
4. Parse verse two and identify the nouns and verbs Paul uses to describe his audience (cf. Rom 1:7; Eph 1:1; Phil 1:1; Col 1:2).
5. Use a dictionary to define *grace* and *peace*. Explain how these words are used in the passage.

GRACE

PEACE

6. Who supplies their grace and peace?

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:4-9

7. In verse four notice that Paul repeats the concept of God's grace. While considering the definition of grace that you recorded earlier, what does Paul mean when he says, "The grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus" (v.4)?
  
8. Describe the blessings the Corinthians possessed because of their position in Christ Jesus (vv. 5-7a; cf. Titus 2:11; Eph 1:3-14)?
  
9. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. Next, record the extensive list of spiritual blessings given to all believers by virtue of their position in Christ.
  
10. Explain the climactic truth with which Paul wraps up his introductory paragraph (vv. 7b-9; cf. 1 Thes 3:13, 5:23; Col 3:4; Phil 3:20; Titus 2:13).

Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-17

11. Use a dictionary to define *exhort* and explain how it is used in the passage.

EXHORT

12. What exhortation does Paul deliver to the Corinthians?
  
13. Read verse 16 and describe the root of the quarreling and the four factions involved.
  
14. How does Paul correct their thinking on this?

15. Describe the purpose of the ministry that Christ gave to Paul.

#### Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

Look back at verse 17 and notice the distinction the Apostle Paul makes between preaching the gospel and possessing cleverness of speech. Now, using this as a foundation, Paul will make a series of assertions to contrast the wisdom of man with the wisdom of God.

16. How was God able to nullify the wisdom of the world?

17. Who are the three groups of people that react to Paul's gospel message?

18. What reaction do the Jews and Greeks have to Paul's message of Christ crucified (cf. Mark 8:11)?

19. Contrastingly, what two things are disseminated through the cross to the third group (v.24; cf. Rom 1:16; 13:11)?

#### Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

As Greek citizens, the Corinthians placed an exceedingly high value on the skill of oration. However, Paul reminds them that few of them were considered wise or noble in their society.

20. The Greeks chose the wise man, the scribe, and the debater of this age; contrastingly, what has God chosen?

21. Since God has chosen things, the world considers foolish, what effect does this have on ones standing before God?

22. What were they given *in* Christ Jesus?





Day One

READ ACTS 15:36-18:22

Let us start the week off by reacquainting ourselves with Paul's second missionary journey. This is the missionary journey in which Paul first visited Corinth. Once again, observe the culture, values, and aesthetics as you read. These observations will help you understand the context of Paul's argument.

1. Read Acts 15:36-18:22.
2. On your map, locate each city Paul and Silas visited on their journey.
3. What was the typical teaching paradigm Paul used in each city he visited?
4. Record the responses Paul experienced while ministering in each city.
5. Include any observations you have made concerning cultural aesthetics and values within the Greek cities.

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

6. How did Paul approach his teaching ministry in Corinth (cf. 1:20)?
  
7. What do you think was the cause of Paul's fear and trembling (cf. Acts 18:9-10)?
  
8. Instead of persuasive words, what two components does Paul rely upon when delivering the gospel of Jesus Christ?
  
9. How can this knowledge assist you when you share the gospel with others (cf. 2 Cor 12:9)?

Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-9

10. In 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5, Paul described the characteristics of worldly wisdom. Take some time to review the text above. While reflecting upon it, and your readings in Acts, summarize the main components of worldly wisdom.

Continuing the development of his argument, the Apostle begins to examine godly wisdom and how one can possess it.

11. Who has the means to understand or speak the wisdom that comes from the Spirit (cf. Col 1:28)?
  
12. Who was unable to understand God's wisdom (cf. 2 Cor 4:4; Gal 1:4)?



When Paul speaks of a mystery in verse 7, He is not describing something that needs to be solved by gathering clues and using deductive reasoning. Rather, this is a piece of information that had been previously hidden and now has been revealed.

13. What is the mystery of which Paul is speaking (1:23-24, 30; cf. Eph 3:2-12)?

14. Explain who the rulers of this age are, and the influence they have on culture and public opinion.

RULERS OF THIS AGE	INFLUENCE

15. Read Paul’s argument describing wisdom (1:23-24, 30), then contrast the wisdom of this age with Scripture.

WORLDLY WISDOM	SCRIPTURAL CONTRADICTION

16. Ultimately, how did the rulers of this age demonstrate their ignorance (cf. Luke 24:20)?

Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 2:10-13

17. Who is the *us* in verse 10 (cf. 1:12)?

18. Read today’s passage and mark all the places where Paul talks about the *Spirit* or the *Spirit of God*.

19. Next, record the function of the Spirit in each passage.

20. Summarize the role of the Spirit in delivering God’s wisdom to the apostles and prophets.



Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 2:14-16

21. What does Paul mean by *natural man*?

22. Read the passage and record the qualities of *natural man* and *spiritual man* using the following table.

NATURAL MAN	SPIRITUAL MAN

23. Define *appraise* and explain how it is used in the passage.

APPRAISE

24. What does the Apostle mean when he says the spiritual man is “appraised by no one”?

25. What is the practical outworking of possessing the mind of Christ?

Day One

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-4

1. Review your chart on the spiritual man and the natural man.
2. Describe the third type of man with which Paul characterized the Corinthians.
3. Explain the metaphor of *milk and food* that Paul uses to describe their condition (cf. I Pet 2:2; Heb 5:12-14).
4. How was their carnality displayed in their actions?

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 3:5-9A

To this point, the apostle Paul has been correcting the Corinthians' errant view on the nature and content of wisdom. Now, he will turn his attention to their misunderstanding of ministry and service.

5. Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 again to refresh your memory regarding the disputes that were reported to Paul.
6. In our reading today, Paul uses an agricultural metaphor to correct the Corinthians' thinking. What roles do Apollos and Paul play in the metaphor?
7. Define servant and explain how it is used in the passage.

SERVANT

8. What attributes would be valued in a servant?
9. How are servants rewarded?
10. Explain the position and role of God in the metaphor.
11. Finally, what is the identity of the field in the metaphor?

### Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9B-15

In our lesson today, Paul introduces the second corrective metaphor, by introducing the building concept at the end of verse 9 with the phrase, “God's building.”

12. Explain Paul's role in the building process (cf. Rom 15:20).
13. What is the content of the foundation (cf. Isa 28:16 1 Pet 2:6)?

14. Paul warns that each man should be careful how he builds on the foundation. What are the elements of *gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, and straw* meant to depict?
15. How should the concept of *reward* motivate a Christian?
16. What does the outcome of the test in verse 15 demonstrate about a believer's position in Christ?

### Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 3:16-17

Paul concludes his trilogy of metaphors with the use of temple imagery in verses 16-17. Read all three metaphors together to help you see his flow of thought.

17. What is the temple of which Paul speaks (Eph 2:19-22)?
18. How does the Spirit function within the temple (v.16; 2:10-13)?
19. What warning does Paul give to a person who seeks to damage the temple?
20. Contextually, are the people who seek to damage or destroy the temple within or without the temple?
21. How does this illustration help you to understand the seriousness of causing division within the body of Christ (5:5)?

Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 3:18-23

Here we see the Apostle concluding this portion of his argument, by returning to the concept of wisdom.

22. Read the passage and fill in the table with characteristics of Godly wisdom and human wisdom.

GODLY WISDOM	HUMAN WISDOM

23. According to verse 21, why should the Corinthians not boast in men?

24. Explain Paul's conclusion, that in fact, all these things belong to the Corinthians (cf. 2 Cor 6:9-10)







Day One

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 4:1-5

In verse one, Paul instructs the Corinthians to regard their teachers as servants and stewards.

1. Rewrite your definition of servant from last week and define steward. Next, explain their usage in the passage.

SERVANT	
STEWARD	

2. Note the similarities and differences of these positions.
3. Next, observe of whom are they a servant, and what are they to steward?
4. Let us attempt to follow Paul's reasoning in verses 3-5.  
Since Apollos and Paul are servants and stewards of \_\_\_\_\_.  
They cannot be examined by \_\_\_\_\_.  
They can only be examined by \_\_\_\_\_.  
Therefore, the Corinthians should not \_\_\_\_\_.  
Instead, the Corinthians need to wait for the Lord to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 4:6-8

4. Verse six begins this way, "Now these things." What are the, *these things* of which Paul is speaking?
5. What was the Apostle's purpose in using this figurative language?

6. Contemplating verse 7, why is it foolish for a believer to feel superior?

Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 4:9-13

7. Using the chart below, contrast the self-perceptions of Paul and the Corinthians.

PAUL	CORINTHIANS

8. Contrastingly, what can those who proclaim the message of the cross expect in return?

Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 4:14-17

9. Paul does not wish to \_\_\_\_\_, but to \_\_\_\_\_.

10. How is this exhortation illustrated?

11. Who is Timothy and why does Paul send him (16:10-11; 1 Tim 1:2; 2 Tim 3:15)?

Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 4:18-21

12. Why have the Corinthians become so arrogant?

13. Contrast the source of arrogance of the Corinthians with the source of power mentioned in verse 20 (cf. Rom 10:3; Rom 14:17).

ARROGANCE	POWER

14. How is the role of the Apostle Paul emphasized in the closing of chapter 4?







Day One

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:1-2

1. What immorality has been reported to the apostle Paul?
2. What action should the church have taken against this immoral man?
3. Instead, what have they done?

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:3-5

4. Contrast the reactions of Paul and the Corinthians to this immorality.

PAUL	CORINTHIANS

5. Read 4:5 and 5:3, then explain what is being judged in each context. Are these passages contradictory?

6. What is Paul's judgment (regarding this sin) attempting to accomplish?
  
7. Contextually, what might Paul mean when he speaks of the "destruction of his flesh"?

Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:6-8

8. Explain the analogy Paul introduces in verses 6-8.
  
9. Describe leaven and its purpose.
  
10. Read Exodus 12-13:10 and summarize the origin of *Passover*.
  
11. What does the leaven represent (cf. Gal 5:9)?
  
12. Contrast the concepts of open mindedness with cleaning out the old leaven.

13. What behaviors characterize the old leaven and unleavened bread (v.8)?

#### Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:9-11

14. What clarification does Paul make about the Corinthians' association with immoral people inside and outside of the church context?

15. Why is this distinction important?

16. Explain the ramifications of reversing these instructions.

#### Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:12-13

17. Describe the concept of judging the behavior of others according to the Apostle Paul (vv. 11-12; cf. Deut 17:17).

18. What is the purpose of judging in this context?

19. What dangers lie in permissiveness instead of judging the behavior of the brethren (cf. vv. 6-8)?

20. Is this concept understood and practiced in the church?





Day One

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-8

The problems in the church at Corinth continue as the Apostle Paul expands his admonishment in chapter 6.

1. How are the Corinthians handling disputes between one another?
2. Paul uses the phrase, “Do you not know...” six times in this chapter. What is the purpose of this question?
3. What will be the future role of believers, and how does this make their litigiousness more absurd?
4. Instead of appearing in secular courts, how should disputes be handled among believers?
5. What outcome does Paul suggest is better than appealing to secular courts?

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

6. What behaviors characterize the unrighteous?
7. In what condition were the Corinthians before they were justified?
8. Did the justification of the Corinthians automatically eliminate these unrighteous characteristics (cf. 5:1, 12-13)?

9. What implication is Paul making by contrasting unrighteous behaviors with those who have been justified and sanctified?

### Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-14

10. In verses 12-13, Paul refutes two slogans of the Corinthians. Firstly, the Corinthians say, “All things are lawful for me.” Paul—the teacher of Christian liberty—replies with what admonishment?
11. Secondly, how is the Corinthian phrase, “Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them.” used to justify their immoral behavior?

This theory (dualism: separating the physical and spiritual) was used to justify the behaviors Paul has been correcting.

12. How does Paul address the idea of the physical body being spiritually unimportant, and therefore able to be used for anything desirable?
13. What eschatological (future) truth does Paul present to demonstrate the importance of the physical body of believers?

### Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:15-18

Paul asks them a rhetorical question, “Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?”

14. Use a dictionary to define member and explain its use in the passage.

MEMBER



15. Explain why joining with a prostitute (while being a member with Christ), is especially egregious.

16. In consideration of this truth, what is our motive to flee immorality?

17. How does sinning against one's own body do damage to oneself and Christ?

### Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20

18. Since their body—contrary to being unimportant— is the temple of God, how should they treat it?

19. The liberty they cherish, but misunderstand, was not free; it was purchased with the prohibitive cost of Jesus Christ's sacrificial death. Therefore, how are they called to live in view of these truths?



Day One

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-9

Chapter 7 begins a new section of 1 Corinthians. In chapters 7-15, Paul addresses various questions about which the Corinthians had written. Since the Corinthian church was following many of the teachings of asceticism (denial of self for a higher spiritual purpose), Paul first addresses an ascetic misconception from their letter, “It is good for a man not to touch a woman.”

1. What reason does Paul offer for the concept of *not touching a woman* to be erroneous?
2. Instead of physical deprivation, how should a husband and wife respond to one another?
3. Explain the principle of not having authority over your own body, as it relates to a marriage relationship.
4. What is the only acceptable instance of pausing physical intimacy in marriage?
5. What does this indicate about the importance and value of physical relations within marriage?
6. How is Paul an anomaly in this regard?
7. Whom is Paul addressing in verses 8-9?
8. What advantages are there in remaining single?
9. In what case should single people marry?

Day Two

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-24

10. Read today's passage and carefully consider and record what type, or categories of married people Paul is addressing.

vv. 10-12	
vv. 12-14	
vv. 15-16	
vv. 17-24	

11. What instruction does he give to each group?

vv. 10-12	
vv. 12-14	
vv. 15-16	
vv. 17-24	

12. Explain Paul's reasoning in the two illustrations he uses to teach that a believer should remain married to an unbeliever, if possible.

vv. 18-20	
vv. 21-24	

### Day Three

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:25-35

13. What advice does Paul offer to the unmarried?

14. What is Paul's reasoning for remaining single?

vv. 26-28	
vv. 29-31	
vv. 33-35	

15. Despite Paul's opinion that remaining single frees a person to serve the Lord more freely without the demands of a family, what is the main point he wishes his readers to heed?

Day Four

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:36-38

16. Although this may be a foreign concept to us, who is able to give consent or withhold consent for marriage in this section?
  
17. Explain the reasoning for allowing or disallowing the marriage of a virgin daughter.
  
18. What is Paul's conclusion on the matter?

Day Five

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 7:39-40

19. What are Paul's closing remarks to the widow?
  
20. Once again, what is Paul's position regarding her remarrying?

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Spend some time reflecting on the state of marriage and family in our culture.

21. How has the rejection of marriage commands affected our society?

22. How has the rejection of marriage commands affected the church?





Day One

I CORINTHIANS 8-11:1

We find ourselves in the section of First Corinthians wherein the apostle Paul is answering several questions about which the Corinthians had inquired (1 Corinthians 7-15). In chapter seven he concerned himself with many facets of marriage. Next, in chapters 8-11:1, Paul addresses concerns about the participation in idolatrous ceremonies and the consuming of meat sacrificed in those ceremonies by members of the church in Corinth.

1. Read 1 Corinthians chapters 8-11:1 purposefully, to understand the topic and flow of Paul's thinking. You may have to read it several times through to accomplish this.

Day Two

I CORINTHIANS 8:1-3

2. What topic does Paul introduce in verse one?
3. In verse one, Paul quotes the slogan some Christians in Corinth were using, "We all have knowledge." What do you think they mean when they use it?

4. Explain the principle of accumulating knowledge without possessing love (cf. I Tim. 3:16; I Cor. 13:1-13).

Day Three

1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-3

5. What is the ultimate purpose of possessing knowledge, and how should proper knowledge affect our relationship toward God and others?

6. Explain what the following passages teach about knowledge and/or love, and how they harmonize with one another.

DEUT. 6:4-9:	
PROV. 6:20-22:	
ROM. 10:2-3:	
ROM. 12:1-2:	
1 JOHN 2:3:	

1 COR. 13:1-13:

Day Four

1 CORINTHIANS 8:4-8

7. As Paul begins to correct their thinking in verse four, what emphatic statement does he make?
8. How does Paul mentioning the existence of “gods and lords” harmonize with his previous statement of their only being one God (cf. v.6; Deut. 10:17; 1 Cor. 10:19-20)?
9. What is the cause of the *weak conscience* mentioned in verse seven?

10. Use a dictionary to define *defiled* and explain its use in the passage.

DEFILED

11. What role does one's food choice play in one's sanctification (v.8; cf. Acts 10:9-16)?

Day Five

1 CORINTHIANS 8:9-13

12. Use a dictionary to define *liberty* and explain its use in the passage.

LIBERTY

13. Follow along carefully as the Apostle explains how your liberty can be the cause of another's downfall.

Firstly, he \_\_\_\_\_ you eating the meat at the temple.

Secondly, he himself is \_\_\_\_\_.

Thirdly, because he sees you eating the meat he is \_\_\_\_\_.

Lastly, he is \_\_\_\_\_ because he eats (v.11).

14. Explain how engaging in this careless use of liberty is actually sin.

15. Summarize how love for the brethren surpasses one's knowledge in this scenario.

16. Therefore, what should be the perspective of the believer as it concerns areas of Christian liberty?



Day One

I CORINTHIANS 9:1-2

The believers in Corinth seemed to be questioning Paul's apostleship and reasoned that his not being supported financially (by churches) was due to his lack of apostolic authority. His argument in chapter nine therefore demonstrates his apostleship and records his explanation for why he would willingly give up his liberty (right to financial support) for the cause of Jesus Christ.

*What are the four rhetorical questions Paul asks?*

1. How do the last two questions relate to his apostleship (v.1; Acts 1:21-22; Acts 26:16-17)?

Day Two

I CORINTHIANS 9:3-14

Paul begins his argument by demonstrating his right to be financially supported by those to whom he ministers.

1. Firstly, analyze the rights Paul records and summarize their collective meaning.
  - v.4
  - v.5
  - v.6
2. What three examples does Paul use from everyday walks of life to illustrate his point?
  - v.7a
  - v.7b
  - v.7c
3. What proofs does Paul reference in the Scriptures to demonstrate his point?

vv.8-10

v.13 (Num. 18:8-32)

v.14 (Matt. 10:10; Luke 10:7)

2. Although Paul should be supported financially by those who benefit from his labor, he forgoes this right. Explain his reasoning (vv.11-12).

### Day Three

1 CORINTHIANS 9:15-19

3. Look back to day two and review Paul's first reason for forgoing financial support for his teaching ministry.

4. Now notice an additional reason for Paul not accepting financial support (vv.15-18; cf. 2 Cor. 11:9-12).

5. Explain the rewards Paul will receive by laboring in this way for the gospel.

v.18 (2 Cor. 11:9-10; cf. John 4:36).



v.19 (1 Cor. 10:33)

### Day Four

1 CORINTHIANS 9:20-23

6. Review verse 19 and explain Paul's mindset in administering the gospel.

7. What are the three types of people to whom Paul ministers?

v. 20 (Acts 17:2; Rom. 1:16)

v.21 (Gal. 2:8)

v.22 (1 Cor. 8:9-11)

8. Explain how Paul could alter his approach or actions while ministering in each of these groups for the purpose of having a more productive ministry.

9. Give an example how this approach to teaching or reaching different kinds of people could be effective in your own life.

Day Five

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

10. Although some would accuse Paul of being a hypocrite for engaging in different behaviors depending upon whom he was teaching, what comparison does the Apostle use for his methods (cf. 1 Cor. 6:12; 10:33)?

11. As a result of his work, what does Paul have to look forward to (Phil. 3:13-14)?

12. In what ways does the believer engage in self-discipline to further the gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 6:12)?

13. What are proper motivations for the believer to labor for the Lord (1 Cor. 3:13-14; 2 Tim. 4:7)?

Day One

1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-6

In chapters 8-10 the Apostle Paul is correcting the Corinthians' view of liberty. They correctly recognize that through Christ, they are no longer bound to the law, but don't understand how to balance their liberty in Christ with love for other believers.

1. Summarize Paul's warning in the end of chapter nine (vv.24-27), by explaining how the believer is to approach and live out the Christian life.

With this warning in place, Paul uses the *Exodus generation* to illustrate it. He seeks to teach them—through the example of the Israelites—that although they experience many blessings that come through faith in Christ, they are not immune to the disciplinary hand of God.

2. Read our passage for today and record the five blessings the Israelites experienced because of their faith in God. Next, read the NT passages that describe blessings believers experience because of their faith in Christ.

OT Reference	Blessings for Israel	NT Reference	Blessings for Believers
Ex. 13:31; 14:19-20		Luke 1:79; 1 Pet. 1:5	
Ex. 14:21-28		Heb. 2:14-15; Gal. 1:4	
Ex. 14:31		I Cor 12:13	
Ex. 16:4, 15		John 6:31-32	
Ex. 17:6		John 4:10-14	

3. Despite the vast blessings the Israelites were given, what was the consequence of their disobedience (v.5; Num. 14)?

4. According to Paul, what was the purpose of recording these historic events?

### Day Two

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 10:6-15

5. Although the Israelites experienced blessings from God, they also experienced punishment for their sinful rebellion. Read today's passage and record the five punishments God administered to the Israelites because of their sinful behaviors.

TODAY'S PASSAGE	SINFUL BEHAVIOR	PUNISHMENT
1 COR. 10:6	NUM. 11:4-34	
1 COR 10:7	EX. 32:1-6	
1 COR. 10:8	NUM. 25:1-2	
1 COR. 10:9	NUM. 21:4-6	
1 COR. 10:10	NUM. 16: 41-49	

6. Again, Paul reminds his readers of why he is recounting Israel's past actions. What is the relevance to the Corinthians (cf. Gal. 5:13)?
7. Explain the proper daily mindset and tools for a believer to avoid falling into sin.

8. What is Paul's concluding instruction?

Day Three

1 CORINTHIANS 10:16-22

We have seen that Paul has instructed his audience about the danger of idolatry and shown them the punishment the Israelites experienced when they engaged in this behavior. Now, he will now apply this principle to the current behaviors that plague the Corinthian church.

9. Read our passage for today and explain the three examples given and how each of them, through their ritual, is identifying themselves (sharing themselves) with a school of thought.

vv.16-17

v.18

vv.19-20

10. As our culture slips further and further away from Christianity and a Christian worldview, occultism is becoming more prevalent and popular. Like the Corinthians, some Christians seem to dismiss the danger of the demonic realm and engage in various rituals and games associated with the occult. Like the Israelites, they provoke the Lord to jealousy by their idolatry. Armed with this Pauline explanation, think about how you would explain to someone that dabbling in the occult is not harmless, and serious danger lies within (cf. Lev. 19:26, 31; Jer. 27:9-10; Exod. 22:18; Numb. 25; 1 Sam. 28:1-19).

Day Four

1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-24

11. How is Paul using the word *lawful*?

12. Use a dictionary to define *profitable* and *edify*. Next, explain their use in the passage.

PROFITABLE	
EDIFY	

13. While considering the use of the words *lawful*, *profitable* and *edify*, describe the proper motivation the believer should have in *non-moral* situations (cf. Rom. 15:2; Phil. 2:4).

Day Five

1 CORINTHIANS 10:25-33

Paul steers the discussion back to eating meat, purchased in a market, that had been sacrificed to idols (non-moral) and combines the principle of liberty and love for the weaker believer in multiple scenarios.

14. Explain the various situations Paul describes and the proper application of liberty in each.

15. What role does the conscience play in our sanctification and what is the danger of violating it?

16. Finally, Paul closes this section by drawing our attention to the three-fold motivation a believer should have in all they do. Record these and consider any practical application in your own life.

v.31

v.32

v.33





Day One

1 CORINTHIANS 11:1-2

1. Read chapter eleven and give an overall summary of Paul's focus in this chapter.
2. Why do you think Paul is able to offer himself as an example for the instructions which follow?
3. How does Paul praise them?

Day Two

1 CORINTHIANS 11:3-10

4. Use a dictionary to define *head* and explain its use in the passage.

HEAD

5. According to the Apostle Paul, what is the order of headship (cf. Eph. 5:23-24; Col. 1:18; 2:10)?
6. How does Paul's description of headship set the context for what follows?
7. What requirement is given to men (v.4), and why (v.7)?
8. Likewise, what instruction is given to the women in the church, and why (vv.5-6)?
9. Next, Paul turns to creation to expound upon his characterization of headship. Read Genesis 1:26-28 and record what is written about men, women, and their likeness and image.
10. What instructions were they given?

11. Now, read Genesis 2:18-25, in which the author (Moses) is retelling the creation account while adding additional information. Explain the distinctions of the man and woman, including the role and purpose of each.

12. How does the description of the creation narrative as it relates to men and women add clarity for the reader of 1 Corinthians 11:3-16?

13. What do you think the angels are observing?

### Day Three

1 CORINTHIANS 11:11-16

14. Explain the symbiotic relationship of the man and woman, and its relevance in this narrative.

15. How does the discussion of the length of hair illustrate the order of creation, Paul has just discussed?

16. What new information is given about the purpose of women's hair (v.15)?

17. Finally, while considering all the information recorded regarding authority structure, gender roles and hair length, what seems to be Paul's main concern among the congregation at Corinth?

18. How is this relevant to Christians today?

Day Four

1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-26

19. As Paul introduces the next subject of the misuse of communion, what are some of the problems he encounters?
20. Paul quotes the words of Jesus at the last supper. Summarize what the Lord said in those passages.
21. What is the irony of dividing among socio-economic lines while considering the work of the Lord on the cross?
22. Why is division in this regard undermining the purpose of communion (cf. Eph. 2:15-16)?
23. What do these attitudes demonstrate about their understanding of the church (the body of believers)?

Day Five

1 CORINTHIANS 11:27-34

24. Contrary to the insincerity with which the Corinthians approached communion, Paul's admonition is very serious. How does Paul caution them and how should they be approaching the communion service?
25. What does it mean to take communion in an unworthy manner?

26. How can we judge ourselves to avoid drinking judgment upon ourselves (cf. 1 Jn. 1:9)?
  
27. What consequences were some Corinthians facing because of their cavalier attitude while observing communion?
  
28. What practices should one engage in, to prepare themselves for communion (cf. 9:27; Matt. 5:23-24)?
  
29. While considering this passage, explain the practice of communion and its symbolism (Matt. 26:17-30).

Day One

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-3

1. What is Paul's purpose of addressing spiritual gifts?
2. What does this imply?
3. How did the Corinthians behave while they were pagan?
4. Explain the characteristic and result of idols being mute.
5. In verse three, Paul offers a litmus test for recognizing false teachers by emphasizing that no one speaking by the Spirit of God can say 'Jesus be cursed,' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. How does this statement contradict the influence of false teachers, particularly those denying the full humanity and divinity of Jesus Christ (cf. Jn. 1:1; Jn. 1:14; Col. 2:9; Heb. 1:3; Heb. 4:15; Phil. 2:8)?

Day Two

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-11

6. From whom do all spiritual gifts come?

7. What do we learn about the nature of spiritual gifts and their giver in verses 4-6 (cf. Eph. 4:4-6)?
  
8. Use a dictionary to define manifestation and explain its use in verse seven.

MANIFESTATION

9. Provide understanding of how Paul characterizes the purpose of the gifts (cf. Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 4:10; Phil. 2:3-4).
  
10. Make a list of the spiritual gifts found in verses 8-10 and write a short description of each one (cf. Eph. 4:11-12; Rom. 12:6-8).
  
11. According to verse 11, who distributes spiritual gifts and what criteria is this based upon (cf. Heb. 2:4)?

Day Three

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-24

12. What metaphor does Paul introduce in verse 12 to simplify the concept of spiritual gifts (cf. Rom. 12:4-5)?
  
13. What additional insight does Paul provide in verses 13-14, and how could this be impacting the harmony in the Corinthian church (cf. Eph. 4:15-16)?
  
14. While focusing on the metaphor of a body, explain the foolishness of pride found in the body of Christ (vv.15-20).
  
15. Therefore, how does a plethora of spiritual gifts serve the church and the unsaved world?



16. Contrast the Lord's perception with human perception of the unseen, undesired, or unappreciated gifts of believers (cf. 1 Cor. 1:27-29; 2 Cor. 11:2-9-10; Matt. 19:30; 1 Cor. 2:3-5)?

17. Why do you think believers typically rank spiritual gifts and what is this practice rooted in (cf. Prov. 16:18; Prov. 8:13; Prov. 11:2; James 4:6; 1 Pet. 5:5)?

#### Day Four

1 CORINTHIANS 12:25-27

18. How does the church benefit by recognizing the indispensability of each spiritual gift found in the body of Christ?

19. What is the outcome when this is overlooked or ignored?

20. Likewise, how are believers to view the giftedness or accomplishments of one another (cf. Jn. 15:12; Rom. 12:15)?

21. By being united in purpose, humble in attitude, and recognizing the importance of each individual believer, what does this demonstrate about one's understanding of Christ?

22. How does this concept connect with the concept of headship explained in chapter 11:3?

Day Five

1 CORINTHIANS 12:28-31

23. Although God has chosen to distribute spiritual gifts as he sees fit, Paul explains in verse 28 the importance of the gifts which established the church based upon the truth of Jesus Christ. How do each of these rolls play a part in the foundation of the church?

24. What would Paul mean by desiring the greater gifts?

25. After a complete description of spiritual gifts and their necessity, Paul introduces what concept in verse 31b?

Day One

I CORINTHIANS 13:1-3

1. According to chapter twelve, what gifts did the Corinthians seem to regard most highly?
2. What seemed to be their motive for desiring these gifts?
3. What is the purpose of a believer possessing spiritual gifts?
4. What statement does Paul make at the closing of chapter twelve?
5. Read today's passage and record what gifts Paul declares useless without having love.
  
6. How does this passage compare with Matthew 26:36-40, in which Jesus discusses the greatest commandment of the Mosaic Law?

Day Two

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

7. Read the passage and identify the fifteen characteristics associated with love that Paul lists in verses 4-7.

Day Three

CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

8. Explain how each of the following passages reinforce an attribute of love.

EXODUS 34:6	
EXODUS 20:17	
MICAH 6:8	
1 PETER 3:8-9	
PHILIPPIANS 2:4-8	

PROVERBS 15:18	
ZECARIAH 8:16-17	
HOSEA 2:19-20	
GENESIS 15:6	
JEREMIAH 29:11	
MATTHEW 24:13	
JEREMIAH 31:3	

#### Day Four

CORINTHIANS 13:8-10

9. How does Paul contrast the eternity of love with prophecy, tongues, and knowledge?
10. What is meant by “when the perfect comes,” in verses 9-10?
11. How does the concept of partial prophecy, tongues, and knowledge compare to the complete revelation of God's Word (Revelation 22:18-19)?
12. Why does the completed canon of Scripture eliminate the need for prophecy, tongues and knowledge?

Day Five

CORINTHIANS 13:11-13

13. In verse 11, Paul talks about putting childish ways behind him. How does this maturation process relate to the spiritual gifts previously discussed in the beginning of the chapter (cf. Heb. 5:12-14)?
  
14. 1 Corinthians 13:12 discusses seeing "face to face" and knowing fully. How does this anticipated clarity of understanding compare to Moses' face-to-face conversation with God in Exodus 33:11 and the promise of our clear vision of God in Revelation 22:1-8?
  
15. Explain the concept of *now* faith, hope and loving abiding.
  
16. After studying this passage, why do you think love is greatest among these (cf. John 3:16; John 15:13)?