

# Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

## Reading Questions

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**Directions:** Answer the questions below on a sheet of loose-leaf paper. Complete sentences are not necessary, only complete answers.

### Introduction

1. In what year did Paul probably establish a Christian church at Corinth?
2. After Paul departed from Corinth, who continued to instruct them about Jesus?
3. Where was Paul when he received the news that the Corinthian church was having problems?
4. When did Paul probably write this letter? Where was he when he wrote it?
5. What is the general consensus of scholars regarding the question of whether or not Paul wrote this letter?
6. How many letters do we believe that Paul wrote to Corinth?

### 1 Corinthians 1

7. What was reported to Paul about the Corinthian community?
8. When Paul preached the gospel in Corinth, he did it without what? Why?
9. The message of the cross is "foolishness" to whom?
10. What do Jews "demand"? What do Greeks "look for"? What does Paul "proclaim"?
11. How does Paul describe the members of the Corinthian church (1:26-29)?
12. Paul claims that Jesus "became for us wisdom from God, as well as..." what?

### 1 Cor 2

13. When Paul was with the Corinthians, he "resolved to know nothing" except what?
14. What "scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God"?
15. What is the difference between a "natural" person and a "spiritual" person?

### 1 Cor 3

16. In Paul's opinion, why are the Corinthians still "of the flesh"?
17. What is the "foundation" Paul laid while he was in Corinth?
18. How will the quality of everything built upon the foundation be tested?

### 1 Cor 4

19. What is required of stewards?
20. What will the Lord do when he comes "at the appointed time"?
21. Who has God "exhibited...as the last of all"?
22. Who does Paul "urge" the Corinthians to imitate?
23. Who did Paul send to Corinth to remind them of this?
24. The kingdom of God is not a matter of "talk" but of what?

### 1 Cor 5

25. What does Paul advise the Corinthians to do to the man guilty of living with his father's wife?
26. Paul uses two symbols from the Passover to explain why the Corinthian community must remain pure. What is each symbol, and what does it symbolize?

### 1 Cor 6

27. Why was Paul upset to hear that the Corinthians were settling disputes in pagan courts?
28. How were the Corinthians "sanctified" and "justified" according to Paul?
29. According to Paul, the "bodies" of the Corinthians are members of what?
30. Why does Paul believe that the Corinthians should "glorify God" in their bodies?

### 1 Cor 7

31. Paul claims that married couples should not separate or divorce. From whom does this teaching come?
32. Paul claims that those who are married to unbelievers should remain so, unless the unbelieving spouse prefers otherwise. From whom does this teaching come?
33. Paul claims that circumcision and uncircumcision mean "nothing." What is the only thing that matters? What is unusual about this statement?

### 1 Cor 8

34. What "inflates with pride"? What "builds up"?
35. What is Paul's advice about eating meat that has been sacrificed to idols?

### 1 Cor 9

36. What is Paul's "right" as an apostle?
37. Who was "Kephas" (aka "Cephas" in chapter 1)?
38. What historical information does Paul offer in this chapter about "the apostles, and the brothers of the Lord, and Kephas"?

39. Why does Paul choose not to use his "right"?
40. What did Paul do to win over Jews?
41. What did Paul do to win over those "outside the law"?
42. What is the difference between the "crown" after which an athlete runs, and the "crown" after which Christians run?

### 1 Cor 10

43. Paul claims that Christ was somehow present during the Exodus. How?
44. Paul claims that during the Exodus, some of the Hebrews "suffered death by serpents" because they did what?
45. The "cup of blessing" is a participation in what?
46. The "bread that we break" is a participation in what?
47. "You cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and also the cup of..." what?

### 1 Cor 11

48. According to Paul, how should a man "pray or prophesy"?
49. According to Paul, how should a woman "pray or prophesy"?
50. How have the Corinthians been abusing the Lord's Supper?
51. What historical information does Paul offer about Jesus in this chapter?
52. Why does Paul believe that many in the Corinthian community are ill or dying?

### 1 Cor 12

53. Nobody speaking by the spirit of God says what?
54. No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by what?
55. According to Paul, we are all "individually parts" of what?
56. List the nine spiritual gifts.

### 1 Cor 13

57. This famous chapter from 1 Corinthians deals entirely with one subject. What is it?
58. What are the three "theological virtues"?
59. Which of these is the greatest? Why do you think Paul believes it is the greatest?

### 1 Cor 14

60. For which spiritual gift does Paul think the Corinthians should "strive eagerly"?
61. Why does he prefer this gift to speaking in "tongues"?
62. What is necessary before one who speaks in tongues can build up the church?
63. One who speaks in tongues should pray to be able to do what?
64. Paul would rather speak five words with what, than ten thousand in a tongue?
65. Paul tells the Corinthians to be "like infants" in respect to what?
66. Paul believes that tongues are a "sign" for whom?
67. Paul believes that prophecy is a "sign" for whom?
68. What does Paul claim that unbelievers would think if they walked into a church full of people speaking in tongues?
69. What would the same person think if he walked into a church full of people prophesying?

### 1 Cor 15

70. What historical information does Paul offer about Jesus in this chapter?
71. Why does Paul think he is "not fit to be called an apostle"?
72. Some Corinthians have apparently been claiming that what event in Jesus' life did not happen?
73. According to Paul, why do we "all die"?
74. How are we "brought to life"?
75. What is the last "enemy" to be destroyed during Christ's reign?
76. After everything is "subjected" to the "Son," what must the Son do?
77. Where was Paul when he "fought with beasts"?
78. The "first Adam" became what? What did the "last Adam" become?
79. Paul "declares" that what "cannot inherit the kingdom of God"?
80. What is the "sting of death"? What is the "power of sin"?

### 1 Cor 16

81. Paul asks the church in Corinth to take up a collection for the church in what city?
82. Paul plans to visit Corinth after he travels through what region?
83. Where did Paul plan to be for Pentecost of that year?
84. What does the Aramaic phrase "Marana tha" mean? If the phrase is actually "Maran atha," what does it mean?