

What about chapters 5-7?

Immanuel Church Brentwood
Adult Sunday School – January 2023

Basic questions to ask

1. Why did Paul write these chapters? Look at...

5:1, 5:6

6:1, 6:6

6:15-16

7:1, 7:17, 7:26, 7:29

2. What sorts of people and situations were in the Corinthian church?

6:9-11

7:8, 7:10, 7:12, 7:25

3. Anything to note and share? – e.g.

encouragements...

questions...

things you noticed...

Encouragements for us

These chapters are relatable!

These chapters are timely! e.g. compare 5:1 and 7:1

Overview of 1 Corinthians & intro to chapters 5 - 7

While waiting to begin...

1. What was the church in Corinth like? Is this a church you would like to be part of? Read the following verses...

- 1:10-11, 4:18, 5:1, 6:6-7, 8:9, 10:21, 11:20-21, 14:20, 15:34

2. Last term we studied chapters 1-4. What were the big things we learned about: gospel ministers... church unity... wisdom & power?

What was Corinth like?

Shipping and business,
travel and culture...
diversity

Ideas and philosophies...
and oratory

Sexual immorality:
“to Corinthianize...”



Paul... and the Corinthians... and us

His first visit:

see Acts 18:1-17...

in Corinth for 18 months... probably 50-51 AD

Writes four letters:

(1) Earlier than 1 Corinthians (see 1 Cor 5:9)

(2) Then 1 Corinthians

(3) The “tearful/severe” letter (2 Cor. 2:4, 7:8)

(4) Then 2 Corinthians

Paul writes 1 Corinthians:

from Ephesus (see 16:8)...

probably in early 55AD (see. 16:5-9 & Acts 19:21-22)

Why write 1 Corinthians?

→ Because of what Chloe’s people said (1:11, also 5:1)

→ Because of their letter to him (7:1a)

→ Because this REAL church... has REAL problems:

= immaturity... impurity/worldliness... disunity

For us = like listening to one side of a phone call!

Outline of 1 Corinthians largely from David Jackman

A. DIVISION ISSUES = 1:1 – 4:21

Wrong divisions and sinful pride focused on church leaders and factions.

The Cross of Christ is central and powerful.

The real division: those with and without the Spirit; True Christian ministry.

B. MORAL ISSUES = 5:1 – 7:11

Immorality – even incest – within the church. Don’t forget the Cross!

Believers taking grievances vs. other believers to pagan courts – denial of Gospel.

Excusing sexual immorality – but they’re united to Christ

Issues surrounding marriage, sex, singleness, divorce – kingdom priorities.

C. FREEDOM ISSUES = 8:1 – 11:34

Food offered to idols – the issue of freedom vs. love

Paul reflects on his own freedom, as a Christian worker.

The centrality of the gospel and an eternal perspective.

Lessons from the Old Testament – same temptations, same dangers

Dealing with idolatry; Problems in church worship and abuses of “freedom”

D. SPIRITUAL ISSUES = 12:1 – 16:24

Spiritual gifts set in the context of unity of the body

Love is essential in the body, because it’s God’s character

Use gifts in public meetings based on the criteria of the gospel and love.

Teaching about the resurrection to counteract false “spirituality”

The collection for God’s people, and Personal requests and final greetings

The message of 1 Corinthians in one sentence from Andy Naselli

**** The gospel requires God’s holy people
to mature in purity and unity ****