



## **October 2- 1 Corinthians 2:1-16**

1. What would you consider one of your wisest decisions?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

2. What is it about Paul's approach to presenting the gospel here in verses 1-5 that is so refreshing?

3. What can we learn about proclaiming the gospel in these first five verses? (Also look at 2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

4. In verse 6, when Paul begins to speak about wisdom, he mentions two different kinds. What are the two different wisdoms? (Also look at James 3:13-18)

5. What is the mysterious, secret, and hidden wisdom of God?

6. Why is it impossible for anyone, including leaders and intellectuals, to understand the secret and hidden wisdom of God apart from Christ? (Romans 1:21-22)

7. Who are the ones that understand this hidden wisdom, and why (verses 10-13)?

8. As you look at verses 13-16, how do they show us our desperate dependence on the Spirit? (John 14:17)

## **October 9- 1 Corinthians 3:1-23**

1. What have been some “foundations” you’ve tried to build your life on?

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-23

2. As you read through verses 1-9, how would you describe the condition of the believers (church) in Corinth?

3. What is Paul saying the people of Corinth are controlled by? What or who are they acting like? Are there times in your life when you have been controlled, and acted in the same way?

4. What should be our foundation in life (10-11)? Why is this so important? (Also read Isaiah 28:16, Romans 9:33, 1 Peter 2:4-9)

5. How does Matthew 7:24-29 shed light on having this solid foundation in our lives?

6. Does verses 12-17 make you ponder the work you do for Christ? How you contribute to build up others and the church? How so?

7. According to verses 16-17, what is the Temple of God made of? How should this draw us together as a church?

8. What does Paul say about wisdom in verses 18-20? Have you ever had to pull yourself back from getting caught up in the wisdom of the world?

## October 16- 1 Corinthians 4:1-21

1. What kinds of things do people usually brag about?

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-21

2. How does Paul encourage the Corinthians to view him and other spiritual leaders? Do you think there's any application to our lives here?

3. Why would it be to our advantage to heed the words of Paul in verse 5? Have you ever pre-judged someone, and been totally wrong about them?

4. Take a look at verses 6-7. At what point does loyalty to a spiritual leader become unhealthy?

5. As you read through verses 6-13, what are we taught about humility, and who's example we should follow?

6. Why was Paul referring to himself as their spiritual father? How does a father treat his children? How does 1 Thessalonians 2:10-12 contribute to this?

7. What was Timothy's role as he was sent to Corinth? How important is it to set an example when it comes to living the Christian life? Why?

8. What was Paul's concern about those he referred to as "arrogant"? What did he say the Kingdom of God is not? What did he say the Kingdom of God is? (1 Corinthians 2:4, Romans 14:17, Romans 15:13, James 1:21-25, Matthew 7:21-23, James 2:14-20)

9. Briefly share one takeaway from this week's lesson.

## October 23- 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

1. When you are faced with a problem do you tend to ignore it, hoping it will go away, or face it head on?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

2. What was the situation in the church that Paul addresses here in chapter 5? How did the church handle it?

3. What was Paul's solution for handling this immorality? What was his fear if they didn't follow through with his instruction?

4. As believers living in an immoral world, what steps can we take to protect ourselves from immorality (verse 8)?

5. Take a look at verses 9-13. Paul had written a previous letter that they must have misunderstood. What does he say about avoiding immoral people in general? In verse 11 he clarifies not to associate with a person who calls him or herself a believer, but is continuing to be immoral. He says, "don't even eat with them". Do you struggle with Paul's seemingly harshness? Why or why not?

6. What would a church look like today if it didn't do anything about these types of people in their congregations?

7. What should be the ultimate goal of putting someone out of the church? (2 Corinthians 2:5-11)

8. Why do we sometimes have such a hard time forgiving and restoring a fellow believer that has been living in sin, yet has repented? (Matthew 18:21-35)

## **October 30- 1 Corinthians 6:1-11**

1. What is or was your favorite courtroom type television show?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

2. Paul was shocked that believers were taking each other to court. Why does he say they should not take their disagreements to court?

3. What do you think would motivate these believers to take their cases to court?

4. How do Paul's words about judging the angels help you see the logic of keeping disagreements amongst believers in the church?

5. Read verse 7. Why would Paul say they are already defeated?

6. Why do you think this passage might not be so much about taking someone to court, but rather more about the petty, irritable, childish hearts of these believers?

7. In this passage (9-11), Paul is casting a vision for what God has already done in their lives. Look at who they were before Christ, and who they are after Christ. The same is true for us! Read verse 11 again. What does it mean to you personally to know that your sins have been washed away, that you've been set apart, and made right with God?