



First Corinthians

Week 2

Hi amazing leaders- There is A LOT of material this week (every week!). If you feel overwhelmed as a leader, you can review the key points at the top of page 75. This may help you get your bearings. Just hit on what you can- your job is not to review the entire lesson- just lead discussion on what the ladies want to talk about.

Day 1

In this day, we cover 1 Corinthians 3:1-10. This day can be broken into three key areas.

- Why we need to correct one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.
- How to spiritually correct someone with the right motive.
- How to receive spiritual correction with the right heart.

What lessons stood out most to the ladies in your group?

Day 2

In this day, we cover 1 Corinthians 3:10-15. Paul shares a powerful illustration of building something- we learn about what to build upon and what to build with.

Jesus Christ must be the foundation of everything we build upon. I think it is important to note what the commentator said at the top of page 53- that this "building" is not necessarily our individual lives, but can be seen as communal- like our church.

What do you build your life upon? What do you spend your time doing? What do you focus your energy on acquiring? Are these things that, according to the Bible, will be burned up or are they precious stones or metals that withstand fire? What about our church? Are we building on the right foundation?

We will each give an individual account of what we did with the life that God blessed us with. Think about your talents, dreams, community, and resources that God has bestowed on you- are you building that which is fireproof or combustible with these things that God has freely given you? It does not matter how you appear to the world- all that glitters is not gold. God knows the truth. Better to live for His approval over anyone else's approval



Day 3

In this day, we look at all of 1 Corinthians chapter 4! Paul talks about being a servant and steward of God.

Servants were the under-rowers in great ships during the time of Corinth. No one saw or appreciated what they were doing. Can you relate with that feeling? Or do you always need recognition? We are to expect to be “lowly servants”, with the high calling of sharing the greatest message! Remember- God sees your efforts, even if no one else does.

Stewards did “less talk more action”. We were created to be stewards of God’s creation, and the spreader of God’s message. A steward is one who has oversight and responsibility while operating under the authority of a master. The steward had authority over other servants. How are you stewarding the people that you have influence over? How are you stewarding God’s mission in your life? Has God impressed on your heart any adjustments that you need to make? The best way to feel at home in a church is to start serving- do not just come and consume.

I like the middle section of page 63- “the true test of a servant is how someone responds when treated like one.” I also liked this statement: “Have we started to view the Christian life as synonymous with achievement and privilege instead of service and humility- which can be a real danger to us?”

1 Corinthians 4:20- The kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.” What a great verse to memorize and put into practice!

Day 4

In this day, we look at 1 Corinthians 5:1-8. I like how Melissa points out that at first glance, Paul may look like a hypocrite when first he tells the people to be servants and stewards and not to judge, and then with his next breath, he calls out this man for sexual immorality. I think Melissa brings up some great points that you can cover with your group:

- The man and the church were arrogant and boastful about his sin- he did not have an attitude of repentance, and the church did not have an attitude of sorrow.
- Cutting this man off from the church, was similar to removing a cancerous tumor from a body, so the rest of the body does not get infected.
- Sin, like yeast, permeates and affects all parts of bread.

Pray for our church leaders to have discernment and gentleness when dealing with sin issues in the church. It is not easy being in charge and having to deal with these things.



Day 5

In this day, we finish looking at 1 Corinthians 5: 9-13. I thought Melissa did an excellent job in these last two days, as we studied chapter 5. We took a look at what constitutes the kind of sin that needs to be addressed by leadership and why, we looked at how church leadership is to handle this type of sin, and we saw, (by reading 2 Corinthians 2) both how Paul anguished over this, and how the man responded.

I never picked up on the fact that Paul mentions the man again in 2 Corinthians 2:5-11. I found it so helpful to see that the man needed to be comforted and forgiven, lest he become overwhelmed by sorrow. And, it looks like the Corinth church followed Paul's instructions!

I thought it was very helpful to read through 1 Corinthians 5:9-13. We are judge those in the church that profess to be disciples of Christ. We should not expect non-Christians to act in obedience to Christ if they do not recognize Him as Lord. Therefore, it is not our place to judge them- that is God's job.

This last point was helpful, as I struggle at times to "defend God's name" to non-Christians to the point where at times I can be unloving. This was a good reminder that God will judge the actions of those who do not submit to Him. I can simply love others.