



The Week of January 10, 2021
Grateful for Grace
Conversation Guide

This Week's Take-Aways

- Kindness: (Matthew 7:12) I choose to treat others as I would like to be treated.
- Goodness: (Galatians 6:9-10) I will seek to do good to others even at great cost to myself.

Intro Questions

- Have you ever visited or lived in a large metropolitan/international city before? Did you see any of the issues there that were facing Corinth? What about in Tallahassee/your hometown?
- Do we see our city government and leaders working for or against Christian values?
- How easy is for the church to be influenced by culture versus culture influencing the church?

Meet the Corinthians

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called as an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, and Sosthenes our brother: To the church of God at Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called as saints, with all those in every place who call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord – both their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in him in every way, in all speech and all knowledge. In this way, the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you, so that you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; you were called by him into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Why was Corinth important?
- What was the maturity level of the Corinthian believers?

- How do you think Paul felt about the Corinthian believers?
- From this passage, what was Paul's hope for them?

The Call of God

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called as an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, and Sosthenes our brother. To the church of God at Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called as saints, with all those in every place who call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord – both their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- What does it mean to be “called?”
 - Paul was called (set apart by God) to reach the Gentiles with the Good News of Jesus. How is that illustrated by his work with the Corinthians?
- How does Paul describe the Corinthian church?
 - Does this apply to just the church at Corinth?

The Gifting of God

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:4-7

I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in him in every way, in all speech and all knowledge. In this way, the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you, so that you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- What are spiritual gifts? Do you know what your spiritual gifts are?
 - How are you using your gifts to serve the Church and serve others?
- We learn later in 1 Corinthians that the church members were quite immature and misused their gifts which caused division in the church. How can something that is a gift of God cause problems in a church?

The Faithfulness of God

- Read Verse 1 Corinthians 1:8-9

He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; you were called by him into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Who is it that strengthens us? Do we have to do it all on our own?
- The division and defilement of the church hindered the church from fulfilling her mission in the city of Corinth. How could they reach the city if they were not living and operating as “set apart”?!

- How can we live “set apart” lives in the church so that we are not divided and defiled?
 - How can we set an example of unity as God has brought us together in spite of our diversity? How can we give glory to God through this?
 - How can we show grace to others as God has show grace to us? Both in the church and outside of it?
- Read Romans 8:1-5

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering, in order that the law’s requirement would be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds set on the things of the Spirit.

 - The Corinthians enjoyed the gifts of the Spirit, but based on the fruit of their lives they weren’t living by the Spirit. How can we avoid falling into that trap?

Do you know your spiritual gift? Find out here! <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/501577/?id=501577>

If you have time, take this test during your group meeting and share the results with the rest of the group.

Thank God for these gifts He’s given you and ask Him how you can use them to bring Him glory.