

“Paul’s Advise For Handling Church Problems”



*I Corinthians
Bible Study*

Bible Class Curriculum
GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST
Gulf Shores, AL

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Outline of I Corinthians Bible Study

Church Problems Regarding Unity – Chapters 1-2

Church Problems Regarding Immaturity – Chapters 3-4

Church Problems Regarding Purity – Chapter 5

Church Problems Regarding Immorality – Chapter 6

Church Problems Regarding Sexuality – Chapter 7

Church Problems Regarding Liberty – Chapter 8

Church Problems Regarding Idolatry – Chapter 9-10

Church Problems Regarding Loyalty – Chapter 11

Church Problems Regarding Spirituality – Chapter 12

Church Problems Regarding Charity – Chapter 13

Church Problems Regarding Stability – Chapter 14

Church Problems Regarding Authenticity – Chapter 15

Church Problems Regarding Sincerity – Chapter 16

Church Problems Regarding Unity – I Corinthians 1-2
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) On which journey did the apostle Paul establish the church in Corinth?
- (2) Where do we read of the establishment of the Corinthian church?
- (3) What two people did Paul first stay with in Corinth? What did they have in common?
- (4) Which chief ruler of the synagogue was converted? Why is that important?
- (5) What was one thing the church did not lack in Corinth?
- (6) What is the first problem Paul deals with in this epistle? Why?
- (7) Who reported this problem to him? Why would they report this problem to him?
- (8) Why did Paul address the problem? What would have happened if he had not?
- (9) What do we know about Paul's preaching to the church in Corinth?
- (10) How do we know that Paul is not writing of his own free will?
- (11) Why is Paul so concerned about this natural man?
- (12) What are the differences between the natural man and the spiritual man?
- (13) How can we know the mystery of God?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with unity?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Immaturity – I Corinthians 3-4
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What prevented Paul from speaking to the Corinthians as to spiritual people?
- (2) What manifested their carnality and immaturity?
- (3) Who was more important, he that planted, or the one that watered?
- (4) Upon what foundation is the church built? Why does that matter?
- (5) If those converted by preachers are lost, will the preachers be lost? Why or why not?
- (6) What sort of building is the church? How is that important?
- (7) Who is to be the judge of those who serve the Lord? Why am I not qualified?
- (8) What technique did Paul use in teaching lessons about humility? How is it effective?
- (9) How had Paul become like a "father" to them? Why is that important?
- (10) Why was he sending Timothy to them?
- (11) What one phrase is used repeatedly in this chapter to describe some at Corinth?
- (12) What choices did Paul leave them as to how he might come to them?
- (13) How did their lack of growth contribute to other problems?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with immaturity?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Purity – I Corinthians 5
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What was the nature of the immorality that existed in the church at Corinth?
- (2) What was the attitude of the church in this regard? Why?
- (3) Why does a church "deliver such a one to Satan"?
- (4) How can this take place?
- (5) Who is to exercise this discipline?
- (6) Why should a church be diligent in exercising church discipline?
- (7) What are the dangers in exercising church discipline?
- (8) Why are congregations so hesitant to deal with problems in this manner?
- (9) How can practicing church discipline help the purity of the church?
- (10) Who is the "Passover" for Christians? How should we observe our "Passover" today?
- (11) Towards whom is church discipline to be administered?
- (12) Who has the responsibility of judging whom?
- (13) What expressions may help explain what it means to "deliver such a one to Satan"?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with purity?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Immorality – I Corinthians 6
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What was the nature of the problem being discussed in the first part of this chapter?
- (2) What kind of lawsuits were brought before the courts? Why?
- (3) What is Paul's solution to such a problem?
- (4) How could this problem lead to more immorality?
- (5) What would have been better than displaying their differences before the world?
- (6) What were some of the Corinthians before they became Christians?
- (7) What two criteria, besides being lawful, does Paul mention that should govern our usage?
- (8) To whom does our bodies belong? Why is that important?
- (9) What is the body of one who is a Christian? Why is that important?
- (10) What then should we do with our bodies? Why?
- (11) How easy is it for immorality to creep into a congregation?
- (12) What would have happened if the Corinthian Christians had led immoral lives?
- (13) Who wants us to live immoral lives? Why?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with immorality?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Sexuality – I Corinthians 7
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What are Paul's instructions to married Christians?
- (2) Why do you think its necessary to give instructions to the married Christians?
- (3) What does he say to those who are unmarried and widows?
- (4) Why do you think its necessary to give instructions to the unmarried and widows?
- (5) What does he tell Christians married to unbelievers?
- (6) Why do you think its necessary to give instructions to the religiously mixed couples?
- (7) Why was sexuality such an issue in Corinth?
- (8) Why are we afraid of talking about, or discussing, things of a sexual nature?
- (9) What underlying principle is governing Paul's instructions in this chapter?
- (10) What advantage does the single person have over the married?
- (11) What restriction does Paul place on widows who desire to remarry?
- (12) What does in mean to "marry in the Lord"?
- (13) How will our youth be impacted if we do not teach the principles listed in this chapter?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with sexuality?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Liberty – I Corinthians 8
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) How is knowledge dangerous?
- (2) What is the power of love?
- (3) What attribute is important in regards to knowledge?
- (4) Why are we given liberty on some things in the church?
- (5) How can one abuse their liberty in Christ?
- (6) Why is it so difficult for us to violate our own consciences?
- (7) Why is it wrong to violate the conscience of another person?
- (8) What happens if we sin against our brothers?
- (9) How can we sin against Christ?
- (10) How far should we be willing to go out of our way for our brethren who are weak in faith?
- (11) Should we always make provision for the people that are weaker in faith? Explain.
- (12) Why should we set our liberty aside and think about our brethren first?
- (13) What did Paul mean when he said he would "never again eat meat"?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with liberty?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Idolatry – I Corinthians 9-10
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What two things helped to verify Paul's apostleship?
- (2) What were two things that the apostles had the right to do?
- (3) What arguments does Paul make to justify preachers receiving support?
- (4) Why did Paul choose not to accept support?
- (5) Why was Paul willing to make himself a servant to all men?
- (6) What two athletic events did Paul compare with the Christian life?
- (7) Why was Paul so concerned about exercising self-control?
- (8) What Old Testament account illustrates the possibility of apostasy?
- (9) What attitude is most likely to precede one's fall?
- (10) What promises do we have that should encourage us in times of temptation?
- (11) What is the Lord's Supper? What do the emblems symbolize?
- (12) In considering a matter, what must be considered besides its lawfulness?
- (13) Why should we be concerned about causing our brethren to stumble?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with liberty?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Loyalty – I Corinthians 11
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) For what does Paul commend the church in Corinth?
- (2) How is his commendation proof that good can be found in any situation?
- (3) What is the proper order of authority?
- (4) What evidence is there that Paul is discussing praying and prophesying out in public?
- (5) What evidence is there that Paul is discussing praying and prophesying in the assembly?
- (6) What evidence is there that Paul is encouraging them to act in harmony with their customs?
- (7) How did Paul feel about eating common meals in the assemblies?
- (8) What is the purpose of the Lord's Supper?
- (9) How should one observe the Lord's Supper?
- (10) How can we avoid the judgment of God?
- (11) What is God's purpose in judging His children?
- (12) What appears to be an important element in observing the Lord's Supper?
- (13) How does our observance of the Lord's Supper prove or disprove our loyalty?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with loyalty?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Spirituality – I Corinthians 12
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What do we know about the spiritual gifts of God?
- (2) Why were the "manifestations" (spiritual gifts) of the Spirit given?
- (3) What were these different "manifestations" of the Spirit?
- (4) Who determined who received what gift?
- (5) How were each of these spiritual gifts beneficial to the church in the first century?
- (6) What part does the Holy Spirit play in our conversion and sanctification?
- (7) Can any member of the body say that they are not important? Explain.
- (8) Can any member of the body say others are not important? Explain.
- (9) Which of the spiritual gifts were the most important to the church?
- (10) Which of the spiritual gifts were the most important to God?
- (11) What indication is there that at some of these spiritual gifts or functions were temporary?
- (12) Was there anything wrong with the Corinthians desiring the "best gifts"? Explain.
- (13) Why should we be so concerned about the spirituality of the church?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with spirituality?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Charity – I Corinthians 13
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What is necessary for any service that we may render to be of value?
- (2) How are we nothing without love?
- (3) Why does it profit us nothing if we do not have love?
- (4) What are the characteristics of love?
- (5) What is the main difference between love and spiritual gifts?
- (6) What does "that which is in part" refer to in this context?
- (7) What does "that which is perfect" refer to in this context?
- (8) Why is complete knowledge and complete revelation found in love?
- (9) How does love a result of maturity?
- (10) What two illustrations does Paul use to show the temporary nature of spiritual gifts?
- (11) In verse twelve, what word is being modified by the expressions "in part" and "fully"?
- (12) What will remain after spiritual gifts cease? Which is the greatest?
- (13) Why is it unlikely that "that which is perfect" refers to Christ, heaven, or the Bible?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with charity?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Stability – I Corinthians 14
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What were the Christians in Corinth encouraged to pursue and desire?
- (2) As being practiced at Corinth, what did speaking in tongues accomplish?
- (3) What is the value of prophesying? Why did they do it in the first place?
- (4) What is necessary for speaking in tongues to be of value in the assembly?
- (5) Why was it so important to have a speaker and an interpreter?
- (6) What is the ultimate purpose of speaking in tongues?
- (7) How were the unbelievers and visitors to the assembly to view speaking in tongues?
- (8) What restrictions does Paul place on speaking in tongues in the assembly?
- (9) Why does he place these restrictions on the church?
- (10) What restrictions does Paul place on women in the assemblies?
- (11) Why does he place these restrictions on the church?
- (12) What two basic principles are to govern the assembly of the church?
- (13) Why should things be done "decently and in order"?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with stability?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Authenticity – I Corinthians 15
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) What are some of the key elements of the gospel?
- (2) Why was it important that these Christians believed in the resurrection?
- (3) Why is it important that we believe in the resurrection today?
- (4) Why is it so important to know the details of the resurrection?
- (5) What type of proof is offered for the resurrection of Jesus?
- (6) If Christ was not raised from the dead, what would it mean?
- (7) Would you be a believer if Jesus had not risen from the dead? Explain.
- (8) What will happen when Christ comes again?
- (9) What does Paul refer to when he speaks of "baptism for the dead"?
- (10) Why do some religious groups still practice this today?
- (11) What does Paul reveal about the mystery of death?
- (12) Why is it important that we read the Bible?
- (13) Why is it important to learn the truth?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with authenticity?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?

Church Problems Regarding Sincerity – I Corinthians 16
REVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) Why did Paul dedicate so much time in this book to talk about giving?
- (2) What was the purpose of the collection?
- (3) When was the collection to be taken? Why?
- (4) What was the purpose of doing it this way?
- (5) What principle concerning giving is taught in this text?
- (6) When did Paul plan to go to Corinth? Why is that important?
- (7) Who would likely see them in the meantime? Why?
- (8) What noble comments are made concerning Stephanus, Fortunatus, and Achaicus?
- (9) What husband and wife team joined Paul in greeting the church at Corinth?
- (10) What grave warning does Paul give in this chapter? Why does he give this warning?
- (11) What earnest wish does Paul express in this chapter? How does this prove his sincerity?
- (12) How does Paul close this epistle that is filled with so much rebuke for the error at Corinth?
- (13) How does this close to the epistle prove his sincere desires in chapter thirteen?
- (14) Why does the church have such a problem with sincerity?
- (15) What can we do to deal with this problem in the church today?