

Acts 1 Study and Discussion Questions
Lesson Eight: Corinthians, Part 2 – 1 Corinthians 8-16

Read 1 Corinthians 8-9.

- 1) Which verse in chapter 8 summarizes that chapter?
- 2) In 1 Corinthians 9, Paul illustrated the principle he taught in chapter 8 by applying it to a “right” that he gave up so that no one could question his motives in ministering. What was this right (include verse numbers)?
- 3) According to 1 Corinthians 9:9-10, what is more important to God: obedience to the letter of His laws (the literal interpretation of the word) or obedience to the spirit of the law (the general purpose or intent of the word (see Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28, 31-32, 33-35, 38-39, 43-44)? How does your answer relate to what Paul said in the 1 Corinthians verses?
- 4) Revisit 1 Corinthians 9:19-22. Paul surely did not mean to imply that he acted under false pretense, disguise or hypocrisy. How, then, did he “become all things to all (people)” and how might you (be as specific as possible)?

Read 1 Corinthians 10.

- 5) In verses 1-6, Paul reminded us that Christians today live under God’s covenant blessing, just as Israel had while journeying to the promised land of Canaan. To which lusts did Israel fall prey, despite God’s blessing on them (10:1-11)?
- 6) Keeping in mind all you have read in 1 Corinthians 8-10, reread 1 Corinthians 10:11-12. In what area of your life do you need to submit your rights and exercise self-discipline, so that you don’t fall victim to the lusts of your own sinful nature?

Read 1 Corinthians 11-12.

- 7) According to 1 Corinthians 11:3-16, was there an underlying principle the women in the Corinthian church were ignoring? If so, what was it?

- 8) According to chapters 8-10, some Corinthians apparently insisted on exercising their freedom to eat meat offered to idols. In chapter 11, Paul addressed the two issues of women refusing to wear culturally appropriate head coverings and the insistence of some church members to prioritize their appetites over honoring the Lord's Supper. What one, basic sin of the heart underlies both of these two issues (as well as the problem Paul addressed in chapters 8-10)?

- 9) Paul equated the church of Christ to a human body in order to illustrate the separate function of each part and the unity of the whole. How could you demonstrate your appreciation for other members of your local body of Christ in a practical way, especially to the "parts" (individuals) who usually receive fewer honors?

Read 1 Corinthians 12-14.

- 10) List the spiritual gifts mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12:4-8 and Ephesians 4:11-13 and the singular purpose of all the gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7, Romans 12:5, and Ephesians 4:13).

- 11) What point did Paul make about love in 1 Corinthians 13 that relates to the context of his teaching on spiritual gifts? Can you draw a connection between this particular point and Paul's exhortations in chapters 8-11 to the Corinthian church (refer to your answer to Question 8 for help)?

- 12) On what basis did Paul promote the spiritual gift of prophecy as superior to the spiritual gift of tongues (or languages) in 1 Corinthians 14?

13) The principle of orderliness in the Church (14:26-40) is based upon the fact that God Himself is peace-loving and orderly (1 Corinthians 14:33). Selflessness, love, and orderliness (all discussed by Paul in 1 Corinthians 8-14) are presented throughout the Bible as qualities of God (i.e. Genesis 1 [order], John 3:16 and 1 John 4:7-10 [love], John 3:16 and Philippians 2:5-8 [selflessness].) Which of these qualities do you most need God to build into you and what practical step will you take today to exhibit it?

Read 1 Corinthians 15-16.

14) 1 Corinthians 15 is one of the key New Testament treatises on the all-important doctrine of the Resurrection. What do you learn from 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 about the resurrected bodies of believers?

15) Specifically, how does 1 Corinthians 15:58 encourage you?