**INTRODUCTION TO THE CORINTHIANS**

1 Corinthians

1 Cor 1 : 1-9

Acts 18 : 1-18

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The Corinthians, a new church established by the apostle Paul. While many of the Jews rejected the gospel in Corinth some Jews, Greeks / Gentiles heard—believed---and were baptized.

This was a difficult work for Paul, as it was for most of the apostles in other places, but we have a record of our Lord telling Paul not to be afraid in this city and not to keep silent but speak and our Lord also told him He would be with him and no one would attack him and that He had many people in this city.

**1.** After reading Acts 18:1-8, what do you conclude were some of the reasons why the Jews did not believe the gospel which Paul was bringing them?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2**. When Paul heard the encouraging words from our Lord and was told “I have many people in this city”. From our learning of the gospel what did the Lord mean by this? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**3.** We read that Paul worked in Corinth for 18 months + “a good while”. As Paul was leaving Corinth, a subtle but very important “title” is used in Acts 18:18 to describe those who have been “added to the church”. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We will visit this very important “title” again many times in Paul’s letters to the church at Corinth. Watch for it and **underline each time you see it in 1 Cor.** This effort will help as we study.

***I am urging you to please read all of 1 Corinthians at one setting if you will. It may help to read it aloud with another.***

* Read it as if you are one of the saints listening as an elder is reading this hand written letter to the congregation.
* Read it as if you were guilty of the action sited in the letter and possibly other brethren new you were guilty.
* Read it as if you are an elder of the congregation having to read it to all on the first day of the week.
* Read it like you would read a hand written letter from another who had a great deal of concern for you.
	+ You would not read a page then set it down for a week then pick it up again to read the second page etc.
	+ You would probably read the letter several times.

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**4. Here are some of the topics within 1Corintians which we will be studying this trimester.**

* Spiritual (miraculous) gifts given to some of the saints and what their purpose was.
* Sectarianism-whether outside or inside the church building.
* The message of the cross. Its foolishness to those perishing and salvation to other.
* The difference between worldly and Godly wisdom.
* Brethren within a congregation of much sin.
* Proud---proud---proud brethren.
* How we can know the mind of Christ.
* The “natural” man versus the “spiritual” man.
* Carnality.
* The “watering” and “working” of the Christian.
* Stewards of God’s word.
* Boasting about Christianity.
* Immorality defiling self and the church.
* Dare any of us, having a matter against a brother, go to law before the unrightous.
* Glorify God in your body and spirit.
* Principles of marriage and keep your marriage vows.
* You can be an unmarried Christian.
* Widows and “really widows”.
* Being sensitive to the conscience of other brethren.
* A life of self-denial.
* Serving all men.
* Striving for a crown.
* Old Testament examples of how to flee Idolatry.
* You cannot drink of the cup of demons and the cup of the Lord.
* Any glory we give must be to the Lord.
* The head covering for women in the early church and why it was used.
* Long hair and short hair.
* The Lord’s Supper.
* Giving our money on the first day of the week.
* The early use of diverse miraculous spiritual gifts created unity.
* The greatest gift.
* Prophecy, tongues, interpretations. What they were for, used and when they ended.
* Order in Church meetings.
* The risen Christ and our hope.
* The last enemy destroyed.
* What happens if you deny the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
* Our final victory and the body given to us after we are raised from the dead.

**Isn’t it amazing how much there was preserved for our learning in this one letter from an apostle!**

Acts 1:24-25

24 And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen 2

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Rom 8:27

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

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2 Cor 1:21-22

21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, 22 who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

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