



## Church-Wide Bible Study Metropolitan Baptist Church

Dorothy I. Height Community Academy  
Armstrong Campus  
First and P Streets, NW

Tuesday night Bible Study is a time for the whole family. This is the schedule:

- 7:00 p.m. Prayer and Praise
- 7:30 Bible Study Begins
- 8:45 Bible Study Ends
  
- 6:45 Holliman Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study for Teens
- 8:00 p.m. Young Peoples Choir Rehearsal

Each one Reach One ...  
Each one Bring One!

**Beginning February 2, 2009**

# **I Corinthians**

Theme: Christian Conduct  
Date: A.D. 55  
Author: Apostle Paul  
Setting: Ephesus

While the Apostle Paul is teaching and preaching in Ephesus (a city in which is now modern Turkey) during his third missionary journey, visitors arrive from the church at Corinth, a church he had planted in Greece some three years before. One group of the visitors reports disturbing news of factions, immorality, and lawsuits within the body of believers. Another group comes with difficult questions concerning marriage, divorce, eating food offered to idols, matters of public worship, and the resurrection of the body. Using his God-given power and authority as an apostle – one sent by God as a spokesman – Paul writes this first of two letters to believers in Corinth to firmly address their deplorable conduct and answer their questions.

## **LECTURE OUTLINE**

1. Chapters 1 – 2      The Need for Unity
2. Chapter 3            The nature of True Spirituality
3. Chapters 4 - 11      The Problems in the Church
4. Chapters 12 – 16    Resources for Problems

## **WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?**

Paul's letter to the Corinthians is filled with many exhortations for the Corinthian believers to act like Christians. Their most serious problem is worldliness. They are unwilling to let go of the culture around them. They could not consistently separate themselves from their former pagan ways. Their old beliefs were undermining their present behavior.

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BIBLE AND A FRIEND!**



# Study Notes

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Text: I Corinthians: 3

**1. What does this chapter say?**

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**2. What does Paul mean by a “babe in Christ?” v.1**

They are spiritually immature. They have not grown in terms of their faith. They are still in the infant class in terms of faith and doctrine. The Corinthians thought of themselves as spiritual and mature; Paul thought them fleshly and immature.

**3. How does one mature in Christ in Paul’s view and in yours? How mature are you?**

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**4. What does it mean to be carnal?**

Paul speaks of the Corinthian Christians as “carnal.” Another word would be “fleshly” or “worldly.” Corinthians thought of themselves as ***pneumatikoi*** or “spiritual ones” but in fact, in Paul’s view they were unspiritual, not controlled by the spirit of Christ.  
Milk = the Good News  
Meat = solid food or an understanding of the cross

5. **“I have planted, Apollos watered, but God giveth the increase.” What does Paul mean? V.6**

Those who follow after specific leaders or teachers are secular in their walk. Christians are, however, to be spirit-led. Both Paul and Apollos are required to present the Gospel so that all will come to accept Christ. Our belief is not in the minister but through the minister that brings the good news. Paul and Apollos had different but valid ministries that were mutually dependent. In Paul’s view the minister is really a nobody.

6. **Paul describes his readers as “Laborers together with God.” How so? V.9**

Those who work the field have no claim to it.

7. **How does one “lay” a foundation? V.11**

Paul saw himself as a wise master-builder = architect. Two people are involved in the construction of a building. The first lays a foundation and the second builds up the walls. The strength of the building depends on the quality of the materials used. The church will be judged on whether it has been built on the gospel or on worldly wisdom.

8. **How can we be the temple of God? V.16**

Paul’s Jewish readers would understand “temple” as the temple at Jerusalem. His Gentile readers would associate “temple” with the archaic structures in the Roman forum. Temple = the place where God dwells. The temple which Paul is directing them to however is one built with living stones, i.e., the Christians at Corinth.

9. **How do you know that you are Christ’s? v,23**

We are fellow workers with Christ. It may be tempting to slip into our denominations and separate forms of worship. Instead we should never forget that as Christians we are united, that Jesus Christ is our foundation.

**Next week’s assignment:** Chapter 4

***Did you remember to bring someone to Bible Study?***

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