

WEEK 8

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 8-16 discussion and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1-7 background**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 8-16 discussion**

Bible discussion questions

What did you think was the theme of 1 Corinthians 8-16 ?

What picture do you have of the church/believers after reading 1 Corinthians 8-16?

How is that the same/ different from our experience today?

Which passages encouraged you?

Which passages challenged you?

What can we learn from Paul's teaching about eating meat sacrificed to idols that we can apply today? 8:9, 10:24

Why didn't Paul receive financial support from the church in Corinth?

it was his right, but he didn't claim his right, so that he could promote the gospel by taking away the claim of some that he did it for the money

Are there any ways that we hinder the gospel?

What does the athletic metaphor of 9:24-27 say to us today?

The children of Israel "set their hearts on evil things" and were punished. How can we be victorious over the same kind of temptation? 10:13

Can you think of a modern equivalent for the issue of hair coverings?

What principle can we apply to this issue? 8:9, 10:24, 10:31

How do you think differently about the Lord's supper after reading ch. 11?

need to take it seriously, and not just go thru the motions

How does chapter 12's body metaphor show the difference between Greek philosophy and Christian way of life in community?

We need each other—we don't stand alone, we aren't self-sufficient

How do spiritual gifts fit into that picture?

What do we know about the Greeks again? They loved knowledge and understanding mysteries,

They were very proud, the wealthy were being very generous with the poor in other regions,  
they were undergoing some persecution

Look at 13:1-3

Why is love so all-important? Ch 13

What do their church services seem to be like? ch. 14

Why is it so vital that they have clear and accurate view on the resurrection? ch. 15

Because of what we know about the resurrection, how should we then behave? 15:57-58

Look at the final 5 commands he gives them in 16: 13- 14. How can I apply these to my life?

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1-7 background**

### Timeline

(56) 12 of John the Baptists disciples saved

Paul stayed 3 months, teaching in synagogue in Ephesus

Took disciples to lecture hall of Tyrannus daily, for 2 years

Many miracles, much confession

In Ephesus almost 3 years total

Sometime in here, Paul visited Corinth a second time

56 Paul thru Macedonia , probably including Philippi

57 2 Corinthians -- sent Titus back to Corinth with this letter (from Macedonia)

### Who wrote it?

Paul

### About the epistle

Written from Macedonia during 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey

### About the church

Many small competing congregations, each with its own leadership, often grouping themselves around one doctrine or another. Subsequently, they were being split into factions.

There was a group in the church that was still opposing Paul, and they became more influential when a group of Jewish believers arrived who undermined Paul's authority by hinting that he wasn't a true apostle, or that his motives weren't pure.

Proud of their knowledge, wisdom, and philosophy

Corinth was a huge pagan city, with a massive temple to Aphrodite; a wealthy commercial port city

Many gods were worshipped

Everything was religious in this world

Difficult passages

5:10 good or bad-- bad here means worthless

This is the judgment of believers