

**V** VERITAS CHURCH



# FIRST CORINTHIANS

A church divided, now united

1 CORINTHIANS SERIES GUIDE  
PART 1: CHAPTERS 1 - 8

# WHY HAVE A SERIES GUIDE?

This guide has taken a lot of time, effort, and energy to produce. Why go to all of this effort? Our hope is that this guide will serve to deepen our study of 1 Corinthians in Community Groups, Discipleship Groups, and individually throughout the church.

## FOR COMUNITY GROUPS

Community Groups (CGs) meet together during the week throughout Fayetteville and surrounding areas to live life together, discuss the bible and pray for each other. Because we are united around what scripture we are walking through, CGs will have the freedom to decide when and how they study that scripture together. Some CGs may choose to study a passage before it's preached while other CGs study it after.

What can be expected at a CG is :

- A time to catch up with each other, often over a meal
- A reading the selected passage from 1 Corinthians out loud
- Discussing selected questions on that passage (not all questions offered in the guide need to be discussed!)
- Prayer in smaller same gendered groups for each other, needs of the church and our city, and the world



## FOR DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Discipleship Groups (DGs) are groups of 2 or 3 people who meet together for more focused community and study. A DG can use this Guide as a means of structuring their time together. An example of this for an hour-long DG may be:

- A short opening prayer followed by reading the 1 Corinthians passage out loud
- 20 minutes of discussion questions
- 10-15 minutes of relationship building/accountability
- Closing prayer requests and prayer for each other

## FOR PERSONAL USE

Along with the (daily) Veritas Bible Reading Plan, someone may choose to use this as a means of weekly bible study. Someone can do deeper study of the passage with a Study Bible or Cross-Reference Bible. Personal answers to the questions in the Guide can be written into a journal. Some people may choose to prepare for a CG or DG in this way!



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Corinth was a city known for its sexual immorality. Paul founded the church in Corinth in Acts 18. The Corinthian church was a church of people living in this pagan culture, saved by Jesus and learning how to follow Jesus in the midst of this pagan city and culture.

## KEY THEMES

Paul opens his letter by reminding the Corinthians of their identity: they are saints, united to each other through what Jesus has done for them.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Begin by reading this passage in 3-4 different translations. What are some noticeable differences in the way this passage is translated? Are there any phrases that you find helpful or confusing?
- What are the main themes of the letter Paul introduces in this passage?
- What phrases does Paul use to describe the Corinthians?

### DOCTRINE

- Paul says the members of the church are saints. What is a saint? Knowing what we know about the Corinthian church from the rest of the letter, what's significant about Paul calling them saints? (Look at chapters 5-7 if you are not familiar with the Corinthian church.)
- Look at verses 4-9. In what ways can we see the distinct persons of the Trinity here? What do we see about God the Father? God the Son? And God the Spirit?
- In your own words, what does it mean that, "He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ,"? (V. 8, NIV)



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- What does it look like for us to faithfully wait for “the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ?”
- Read 1 John 1:3. What does it mean that we are, “called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,”? ( V. 9, ESV)  
What does it look like to be a life-giving member of this fellowship? If you are in a group right now, encourage the people around you by sharing an example of the ways you have seen each other being life-giving members of the fellowship.

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-17

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

In the previous passage, Paul reminded the Corinthians of their new identity in Jesus, now he explicitly calls them to unity in the gospel.

## KEY THEMES

God calls his church to be unified in the gospel instead of being divided by worldly values and worldly measures of status.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-17

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Read this passage in 3-4 different translations. How would you summarize this text in your own words?
- What 3 phrases in verse 10 emphasize unity?
- What seems to be dividing the church in verse 12? What unites them from verse 13?
- What phrase does Paul use to describe his preaching in verse 17?
- In the verses prior to this section, whose name is repeated over and over? How does this contrast with and help us understand the problem Paul is addressing in verses 10-17?

### DOCTRINE

- Paul is open and apparently affirming of Chloe reporting the church's quarreling in verse 11. What does this say about the importance of unity? What does this say about the nature of her communication and her motivation?
- What do we lose when we allow our loyalties to earthly leaders to overshadow our devotion to and unity in Christ? Why is this dangerous?





# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-17

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- What divides believers in the universal church? Veritas? Your community group? How could these issues be handled differently to promote unity?
- What is the nature of and motivation for your reports of others sinfulness? Does it promote unity or division?
- Self reflection: What divisions are you tempted to indulge as a believer today? In what areas do you personally need to pray for a heart that is set on unity in Christ above status or preference?

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul has reminded the Corinthians of their new identity in Jesus and called them to unity. Now, he will give the gospel foundation of why they need to be unified.

## KEY THEMES

Paul shows the foolishness of dividing over worldly standards and measures of success. The way God accomplishes salvation and the people God saves are the opposite of what the world sees as powerful, wise, and important.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- How is the wisdom of God different from the wisdom of the world?
- Why do you think preaching Christ crucified is a stumbling block to the Jews and folly to the Gentiles? What about the cross was perceived in these ways?
- Paul speaks quite strongly about seeking worldly wisdom, calling it foolishness or folly . Does this mean that all advice or wisdom we encounter in the world is bad because it isn't directly found in scripture, or is Paul trying to get at something deeper? Are we free to discern if worldly wisdom is helpful, if so, how do we do that?

### DOCTRINE

- How does this passage speak to the idea of Election (God choosing people from the beginning of time for his family and purpose?)
- Based upon this passage, where and how should we find our value as a person?
- Why does Paul say that “the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing”? (1 Cor. 1:18, CSB) What does that mean and how does that impact our perspective on wisdom and the gospel?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- What are some ways that we can engage people who value worldly wisdom over godly wisdom?
- Verse 20 says, “Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?” How does this apply to our context?
- Does community play a role in helping us discern what is God’s wisdom and what is the world’s wisdom? How can we encourage one another to seek God’s wisdom?
- The beliefs of our surrounding culture often influence how we read, interpret, and live out Scripture. What are some practical ways we can work to apply God’s wisdom to our surrounding culture rather than allow it to inform God’s wisdom?

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

To this point, Paul has been explaining how the gospel of a Crucified King is the power and wisdom of God and calling the church to unity around that gospel.

## KEY THEMES

Preaching must be centered on Jesus and his gospel, because the gospel is the power of God, not the talents or wisdom of people.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Verse 5 contrasts human wisdom with God's power. Where in the bible have we seen God's power in contrast with human wisdom?
- What words and phrases does Paul use in his description of his preaching? What connotation do these have? How are they countercultural to what would be viewed as effective preaching?

### DOCTRINE

- Why is it Jesus Christ and him crucified the focus of the gospel and Paul's Preaching?
- Why must we preach Jesus as completely God and completely human, whose death on the cross was necessary for our salvation?
- Read Isaiah 53:1-12. Why was it necessary for Christ to be crucified?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- How do we share this amazing news, the gospel, to a world that finds it foolish?
- What does it mean to live a life shaped by the good news of the gospel and not the wisdom of the world? How can we sometimes be fooled by worldly wisdom that looks a bit like biblical wisdom?
- Share an example of a demonstration of the Spirit's power from your own life experience.

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-16

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul centered his preaching on Jesus so that his hearers would see the wisdom and power of God.

## KEY THEMES

God gives us his Spirit so that we can understand that his way of salvation is true wisdom.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.





# 1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-16

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- After reading this passages in a few different translations, how would you summarize 1 For 2:6-16 in your own words?
- Where is Paul quoting from in verse 9? What does he mean when he says that God has revealed these things to us through the Spirit?
- Paraphrase verse 14-16 in your own words. What is Paul saying?
- How is the wisdom of rulers of this age “coming to nothing”?

### DOCTRINE

- What is Paul teaching us about the Holy Spirit here? Who is the Holy Spirit? Why is it good news that we have been given the Spirit?
- What does it mean to have the mind of Christ?
- How do we know that we are relying on God’s wisdom and not the wisdom of the world?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-16

Discussion Questions

## APPLICATION

- Through the Holy Spirit, we as a believing people can evaluate and discern “everything.” How can we encourage each other in the Spirit to wisely discern spiritual matters?
- How can we help each other grow in discerning spiritual matters? What role does the community of God play in this?

## PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 3

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul has been showing how the gospel is true wisdom and power, even though the world sees it as foolishness and weakness. We are called to preach that gospel and live into the reality it creates for us.

## KEY THEMES

Because we have everything we need in Jesus and his gospel, we must build our lives on the gospel of his grace and not anything else.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 3

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Why are the Corinthians dividing over the issue of who they follow? How is Paul trying to resolve this tension?
- How many metaphors can you see that Paul is using to describe how the Corinthians should see themselves? (Ex. v.1 “Infants in Christ”, v.9 “you are God’s field”) How should this challenge how we see ourselves as followers of Jesus?

### DOCTRINE

- What does it mean that “each will receive his wages according to his labor”? (v 8)
- What does Paul want the Corinthians to believe when he writes in verse 17 “you are God’s temple”?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 3

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- When is it appropriate for teachers in the church to feed with “milk” and not “solid food”? What is the difference?
- How can we ensure that we build on the foundation of Christ with gold and not straw?

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 4

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul has been encouraging us to build our lives on the gospel (Jesus Christ and him crucified) alone. There is no need to divide or look elsewhere for identity and purpose, because we have been given all we need in Jesus.

## KEY THEMES

Paul calls us to evaluate our lives in light of the gospel message, specifically the reality of a Crucified Messiah. Like Jesus, we will experience suffering and hardship in this life, and that is not an indication of faithlessness. The gospel gives us a different standard of success and faithfulness than the world does.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 4

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- What would you say is the tone of Paul's message to the Corinthians right now? In your own words, what message is he trying to get across to them?
- Reread verses 3-5; How does Paul explain his view of judgment from people and judgment from God? How should this create a posture of humility in us?
- In verses 10-16, why is Paul contrasting his (and other apostles') circumstances with the circumstances of the Corinthians? How have the Corinthians misunderstood the Christian life?

### DOCTRINE

- Part of this letter is a form of public church discipline to much of the congregation; for what are they being admonished? How are they being called to correct their wrongs?
- Though we are justified and declared righteous in Christ, why is it important that the Lord will still "bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart" (v 5)?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 4

Discussion Questions

## APPLICATION

- What are some of the dangers of a church forming loyalties to a specific church leader over Christ and the church body?
- How can we identify arrogance and combat it in our communities?

## PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.





# 1 CORINTHIANS 5

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul has been encouraging the church to live in light of the gospel, which will cause them to live differently and evaluate success differently than the world. Now he transitions in his letter to begin showing how the gospel works itself out in different areas of our life together as a church.

## KEY THEMES

Paul commends church discipline for the good of the church. We are not called to judge the lost as if they are saved. However, if someone calls themselves a follower of Jesus yet walks in unrepentant sin, we are called to put them out of fellowship to protect both the honor of Jesus and that person. We do so in hopes that it would lead to their restoration.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 5

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Begin by reading this passage in 3-4 different translations. What are some noticeable differences in the way this passage is translated? Are there any phrases that you find helpful or confusing?
- What reasons does Paul give for the need to exercise church discipline in this passage?
- In verses 9-13, Paul makes a distinction between judging those who do not know Jesus and are walking in sin, compared to those who claim to be brothers and sisters in Christ. Why does Paul make this distinction? What does he mean when he says to not judge outsiders, but to judge insiders?

### DOCTRINE

- Why do you think Paul advocates for church discipline here? Why does it matter?
- How is church discipline good, both for the person under discipline and the church as a whole?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 5

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- How can you better practice formative church discipline (encouraging and admonishing other believers)?
- Paul writes that because Christ has already died for our sins, we are a new creation in Him (v. 7). How should this affect the way we interact with each other and confront sin within the church?
- How do we show Christ's love to those living in sin and how do we love and support those who have been sinned against?

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul showed how church discipline is for the good of the church. Now he begins to apply the gospel to the issue of believers taking each other to court.

## KEY THEMES

When believers take each other to court over minor disputes, they functionally deny what is true about them because of the gospel. (Paul is not talking about criminal cases here. He is not saying that criminal acts should be judged only by the church and not the courts). Believers must embody the gospel in their interactions with each other. Like Jesus on the cross, it is better to be defrauded or wronged than to assert your “rights”.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- After reading chapter 6:1-11, write down any unanswered questions that you might have. Work through your questions in community together.
- Why do you think Paul is so disturbed by the Corinthians taking their squabbles to the secular court systems of the day?
- Verses 9-10 provides a list of atrocious sins. Write down every listed act of disobedience. After you have done so, write down what you think the opposite of each sin would be. What does the new list show you about the character of believers as a result of the work of the Holy Spirit?

### DOCTRINE

- The Corinthian church is distracted from their mission because of internal drama. How can the church body, particularly leadership, provide means of care and counsel that diffuses conflict?
- In verse 11, Paul speaks of the doctrine of sanctification in the past-tense. How can we be seen as sanctified but remain sinners? How does the past-tense phrasing of verse 11 speak to our new identity?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- Verse 5 in the CSB translation says: "... do you appoint as your judges those who have no standing in the church?" What does this imply about where we should seek counsel? Why is it important to turn to the church for counsel?
- Verbal abuse is on the same list as sexual immorality. What do we make of this reality? What does this tell us about the power of our words? (Read Proverbs 18:21)

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul talked about how the Corinthians have been transformed by the gospel from what they once were. Now, he calls them to be who they really are in light of the gospel.

## KEY THEMES

Paul encourages the church to flee sexual immorality. The reason is because we were bought with a price, and our body is no longer our own, it belongs to the Lord. We must glorify God in our redeemed bodies.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Take a few moments to read this passage in multiple translations. Summarize the text in your own words.
- Verse 18 says, “Flee sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.” How does this verse warn us of the personal, lasting consequences of sexual sin?
- The term sexual immorality in greek is ‘Porneia,’ which refers to all forms of sexual immorality. Read Romans 1:24-27, Matthew 5:27-30. How does the Bible define and describe sexual immorality?

### DOCTRINE

- How does this passage relate to sanctification, or our life-long progression to look more like Christ through our Christian walk?
- How does this passage help to redefine the Old Testament concept of the temple as God’s dwelling place? What other passages in scripture point to this idea?





# 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- Do you find yourself leaning toward legalism or too much permissiveness with sexual sin in your own life?
- Our sexual ethic has been one of the more prominent ways that Christians have been counter-cultural throughout the ages. What are some helpful ways to engage with non-believers about our views on sexuality? What are some unhelpful ways?

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-9

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul has been discussing how the gospel applies to our sexuality, and has encouraged us to flee sexual immorality. Now he applies it to sexuality between married couples.

## KEY THEMES

Both marriage and sexuality give opportunities to display the gospel. Married couples can display the depth of Jesus' love in the gospel and singles can display the breadth of Christ's love in the gospel.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-9

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- In this section Paul directly addresses the Corinthians' ideas about celibacy. It appears that the Corinthians were pursuing celibacy within the covenant of marriage with the notion that this was godly. What is Paul's response?
- Why does Paul say a husband and wife should not be celibate for long periods, or permanently, in a marriage. What temporary reason does Paul give for celibacy?
- What are the three parallel statements in verses 2, 3, & 4? How do they emphasize the equal power of each spouse in the marital and sexual relationship?
- How does Paul describe singleness in verse 7?
- What solution does Paul give to singles struggling with sexual desire in verse 8?

### DOCTRINE

- In verse 3 Paul says that a "husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights," and vice versa. How should a follower of Jesus consider their spouse's well-being and needs?
- What is your view of singleness? How is it a gift? What are its challenges?
- Paul uses strong words (conjugal rights, authority over body, deprive). What does this convey about the importance and purpose of the sexual relationship in marriage?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-9

Discussion Questions

## APPLICATION

- How can we embody the gospel in our sexual relationship with our spouses? How can singles embody the gospel in their sexual ethic?
- These verses were meant to correct poor teaching in the Corinthian church, but out of context they have been used to harm marriages in the years since then. How can our understanding of the marital relationship between Jesus and His church help us prevent that harm, and help others heal from that harm?

## PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-24

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul showed how the gospel applies to our sexuality and how we are to live in light of who Jesus has made us.

## KEY THEMES

Paul gives instruction on separation and divorce, encouraging us to pursue peace if at all possible and to live as we are called. We are called to freedom and should live in the freedom Christ grants us.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-24

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Read this passage in 3-4 different translations. Verse 24 reads: “Brothers and sisters, each person is to remain with God in the situation in which he was called.” (CSB) In the NLT, verse 24 reads: “Each of you, dear brothers and sisters, should remain as you were when God first called you.” How should you interpret this passage in light of its conclusion in verse 24?
- Who is Paul addressing in verses 10-11? From Matthew 5:32 and Matthew 19:9, what are the exceptions to the command?
- In 1 Corinthians 7:12-16, Paul speaks to husbands and wives who have unbelieving spouses. What heart posture should believing husbands and wives have toward their spouses? What reason does Paul give for this heart posture?

### DOCTRINE

- Read Malachi 2:13-16. Next, read Ephesians 5:22-33. In light of these passages, what is God’s ideal for marriage? Why does God permit divorce in some instances?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-24

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- How do Christians who are single live in a way that demonstrates the beauty of the gospel? How can all Christians (married or single) celebrate singleness in a healthy way?
- Re-read verse 24. How can we live in a way that appropriately acknowledges the circumstances that God has called us to live in? (as dedicated celibates, those waiting for marriage, married, parents, or children)

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:25-40

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

For the past three chapters, Paul has been discussing how we are called to express our sexuality in light of the gospel.

## KEY THEMES

Paul encourages us to remain where we are called and walk in Christian freedom. He encourages us to not idolize things like marriage because the present form of this world is passing away.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.





# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-24

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- What seems to be Paul's main concern for how the unmarried, widowed, and divorced live now that they are followers of Jesus?
- How would you put verses 29-31 in your own words, as if you were preaching them to yourself; applied to your own life. Consider asking a trustworthy brother/sister to paraphrase them to you in a constructive way.

### DOCTRINE

- Paul wants to “benefit, not lay any restraint” on the Corinthians (v. 35). How does the Gospel renew marriages and singleness? Do we always see that a life renewed by the power of Jesus is a benefit? How does our hope change our lives?
- To summarize Paul in verses 29-31 we often say, “We are living in the already and not yet.” How should this posture shape how we engage with the world around us?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 7:25-40

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- What does freedom in Christ look like for you? In your marriage, or your singleness? Are there areas where you may be shackled by cultural (including church cultural) norms, habits, or religious legalism?
- Reread verses 29-31. What is the danger of feeling that the present no longer matters because of our eternal salvation?
- Where are your interests divided (look at verses 32-35)? Take a moment to honestly name your priorities.

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 8

Read the text aloud

## QUICK REVIEW

Paul has been discussing singleness, marriage, and sexuality in light of the gospel. Now, he begins to discuss Christian liberty and how we should exercise it.

## KEY THEMES

Christians have freedom in Christ, but love calls us to lay down our rights and freedoms so that we don't cause our brothers and sisters to stumble.

## STUDY

Spend a few moments by yourself taking a closer look while re-reading the passage. Look for keywords, phrases, repetition, and transitional words. Consider how you might explain the passage using your own words.



# 1 CORINTHIANS 8

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- If you had to pick 1 verse to summarize chapter 8, which verse would you pick and why?
- How can the principle of eating food sacrificed to idols be applied to other areas of life? What should be my posture toward a less mature believer?
- What does Paul mean by saying knowledge puffs up but love builds up? What is the difference between knowing things and being known by God?
- How does this passage go against our modern American individualism?

### DOCTRINE

- What does this passage tell us about the Trinity? How are the persons of God the Father and Jesus defined?
- How does this passage speak to our human nature to innately worship? If we are not worshiping God, what sort of things are we inevitably worshiping?



# 1 CORINTHIANS 8

## Discussion Questions

### APPLICATION

- What are some modern rights that we can lay down as preferences to prevent stumbling blocks to those 'weaker' than us?
- What are some healthy ways to discuss matters of preference within the church body?
- What is an example of a modern day 'food sacrificed to idols'? Are there things that you partake in which other believers have deemed ungodly? What was your biblical reasoning for partaking? (Include references)

### PRAYER

Pray to close your time of discussion and study. If you are studying with another person or group, ask them for any specific ways you can pray.





**V** **VERITAS CHURCH**  
VOLUME 1