

(1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:1-9)  
“Correcting Wrong Beliefs”

~ INTRO ~

TODAY...

- I'm excited to begin the book of (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians)
  - Because it's going to strengthen our faith.

(1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians)...

- Was written for a specific church – (1 Cor. 1:2)...
  - BUT... it's lessons... are for all Christian's.

AS WE LEARNED LAST WEEK

- (1 Corinthians) is a book that applies Christianity.
  - So we can live out our “Faith In A Morally Confused Culture”

(1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians)...

- Was written by the Apostle Paul... to a church with problems.

IDEA #1 – THE BACKGROUND

PAUL WROTE THIS LETTER...

- To the church in Corinth...
  - Because he was responding to a string of questions they had.

YOU SEE...

- He had planted the Church at Corinth a few years prior.

(Acts 18:11) NKJV

*“And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.”*

AND...

- Then continued on his *Missionary Journey*.
  - BUT... during his time away the church fell apart.
    - And the leaders asked Paul for help.
- That's where this letter comes into play.

**RECEIVE THIS LESSON CHRISTIAN'S:**

(1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:1-9)  
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The Corinthian believers knew the truth...

- They could speak the truth...
  - BUT they simple did not practice the truth.
- It was a *messy church* AND needed Gods direction.

(John 17:14-17) NLT

SO...

- In this letter Paul deals with the problems in this church.

**IDEA #2 – THE PROBLEMS**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians is divided into two distinct sections.

THE FIRST SECTION...

- Deals with seven-corruptions.

THE SECOND SECTION...

- Answers questions.

**WHY DO THESE TOPICS MATTER TO US?**

- Because we can have a sincere belief about God...
  - BUT be totally off course from what is true.

THIS LETTER IS GREAT...

- For guiding & grounding believers in Christ.

THERE’S A LOT OF UNBIBLICAL THINGS...

- That show-up inside the church.

(1 Tim 4:1-2) NLT

**IDEA #3 – IDENTITY BEFORE CORRECTION**

(v.1) Paul was an Apostle called by God...

- And given a message to share with the churches he planted.
  - He had a delegated authority.

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SO TOO... YOU HAVE A DELEGATED AUTHORITY.

- (Matt. 28:18-20) NLT

NOW NOTICE... BACK IN (vv. 2-3)

- The letter opens by affirming who they are:
  - a) Part of God’s church
  - b) Sanctified in Christ
  - c) Called to be saints

**WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO ME?**

Because believers frequently surrender...

- Saving grace to the pressure of Satan.

LISTEN...

- I. The truth is you have a new identity (Gal. 2:20)
- II. The truth is you have been born again (1 Peter 2:24)
- III. The truth is you have been set free to live for God (Rom 12:1)

**HERE’S THE LESSON:**

- Anytime God corrects us... (because we get things wrong)...
  - We need to remember... we’re anchored in... with a new identity.

(Heb. 12:5-7) NLT

**~ IN CLOSING ~**

How do you pray for a jacked-up church?

- Thank God for **His Grace**.
  - Paul was Thanking God for the past (v.4)
  - What God is doing in present (v.7)
  - What God will do in the future (v.8)

(2 Tim 2:13) “*If we are faithless, He remains faithful...*”

**HERE’S THE KEY:**

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“*Correcting Wrong Beliefs*”

Jesus is mentioned (9x) in the first 9-verses.

(Rom. 5:20)

*“... where sin abounded, grace abounded much more...”*

THERE’S TRUTH WE HAVE TO LEARN & OBEY.

- But GRACE is not dependent on me carrying...
  - A certain level of spirituality.

Grace = Is un-merited, un-deserved, favor from God.