

Epistles to the

Corinthians

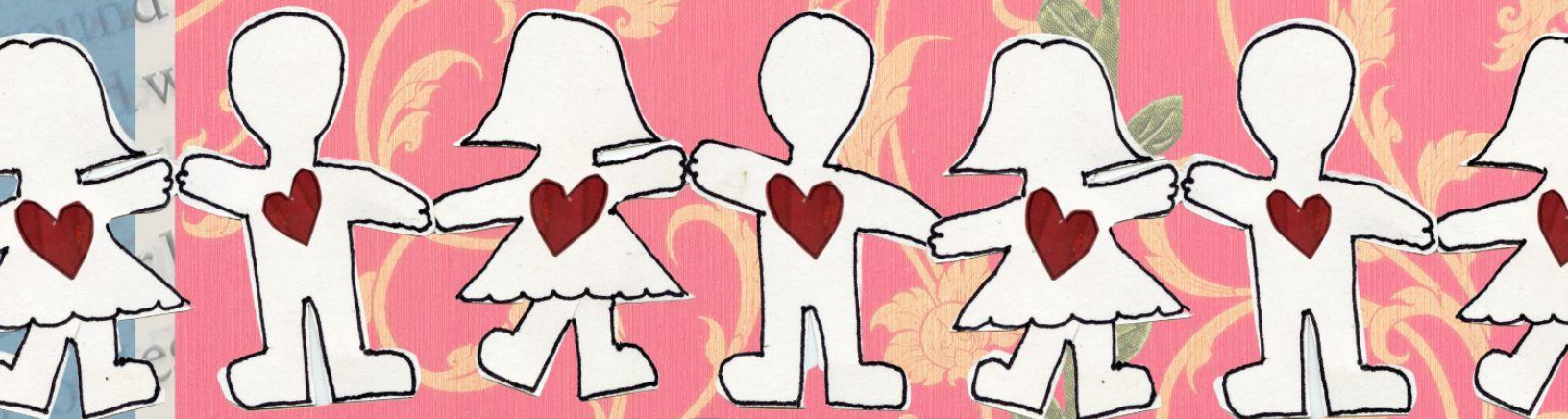
Love

&

Light

Lesson Two

1st Corinthians 1:1-3:23



"Let light shine out of darkness"



"Let the Word of Christ
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

Dwelling Richly

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Lesson Two Day One

...Day by Day...

Write in the date you plan to complete each day.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>My Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Content</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Sept 20 or 21</u>	Day 1...	Review Message (available 9/22/2022)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 2...	1 Corinthians 1:1-3:23
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 3...	1 Corinthians 1:1-9
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 4...	1 Corinthians 1:10-17
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 5...	1 Corinthians 1:18-31
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 6...	1 Corinthians 2:1-5
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 7...	1 Corinthians 2:6-16
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 8...	1 Corinthians 3:1-15
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 9...	1 Corinthians 3:16-23
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	Day 10...	Create & Share

...Meditate & Memorize...

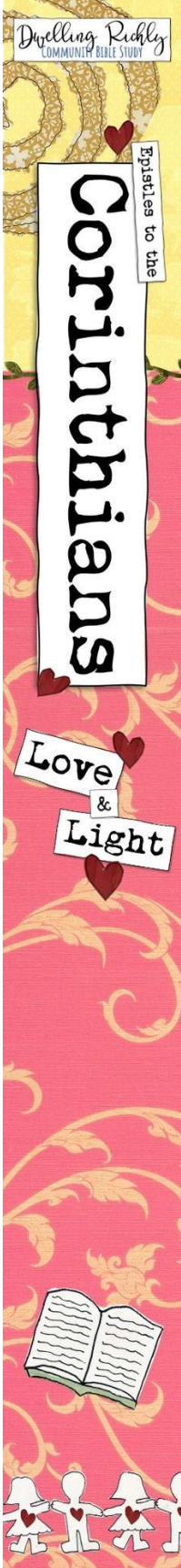
Each lesson we'll have a new passage to memorize. Write this verse as you begin each day of this lesson. Memorize from any version you prefer. Get the wallpaper of this verse each week and use that on your phone to help keep God's Word right in front of you every day.

For the **message** about the **cross**
is foolishness to those who are
perishing, but to us who are being
saved it is the **power** of **God**.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NET)



Lesson Two Day One



...Quiet Time...

- **Shift gears and prepare** for our Bible study group time ahead. Breathe. Pray. Reflect and Prepare quietly on your own and allow others to do the same
- **Shhhh...** Please refrain from talking to others during this time, instead - Quietly reflect on the questions here and prepare your heart for your Grace Group time.
- **New?** Didn't finish the previous study? We're glad you're here! Complete the following prompts, or read/skim 1 Corinthians 1:1-3:23

1. **Reflect.** What do you most value when you spend time on your own in God's Word?

2. **Connect.** Which of the following is the best way to understand the Bible:

- ☐ Ask myself, "What does this verse mean to me?" and then think about how to apply it to my life.
- ☐ Think about what my pastor or Bible study teacher would say about that verse.
- ☐ Look to understand what that verse helps me know about who God is.

Why did you select the answer you did? Why did you eliminate the other two?










3. **Grow.** What is easy for you about Bible study? What is most difficult?

4. **Q & R Time** follows the teaching time. If you have questions for Pastor Jennifer, you can make a note of those here. You can also jot questions down that come up during Grace Groups.

5. **Get Ready.** Read the Grace Group questions on the next page and prepare to share.

Lesson Two Day One

...Grace Groups Guidelines...

1.  **God's Word is our standard.** We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything. We are using the New English Translation (NET) Bible for this study, but you can use any trustworthy Bible translation (not a paraphrase) to study from.
2.  **We come from varying religious & political backgrounds.** Remember: 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'
3.  **Avoid commentaries or study notes in your Bible** - do your own thinking. Trust God, pray, ask for wisdom then read and answer on your own.
4.  **We're all learning.** Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.
5.  **This is a Bible study** - not a personal-opinion group. So, there are going to be "right" and "wrong" answers in keeping with the truth of God's Word.
6.  **Share or Listen.** You don't have to share, but if you did the reading and responded to that prompt, why not chime in? We all benefit from one another's thoughts and questions. I bet you have something great to share!
7.  **Done or Not Done...Come.** Didn't finish the study this week? That's ok. Life gets busy. You're here! Yay, you! This will be a good week for you to listen and be encouraged by others.
8.  **Be considerate.** Share your thoughts on questions you completed and allow time for others to do the same - limit yourself to about 2 minutes maximum and try to stay on topic. Your group leader will help with that.
9.  **Pray.** Pray when you arrive, while you're in Grace Groups, during teaching time. Pray for your understanding to grow. Pray for your Grace Group leaders. Pray for one another. Let's be women who go to the Father for one another and seek His face together.

...Grace Group Discussion...

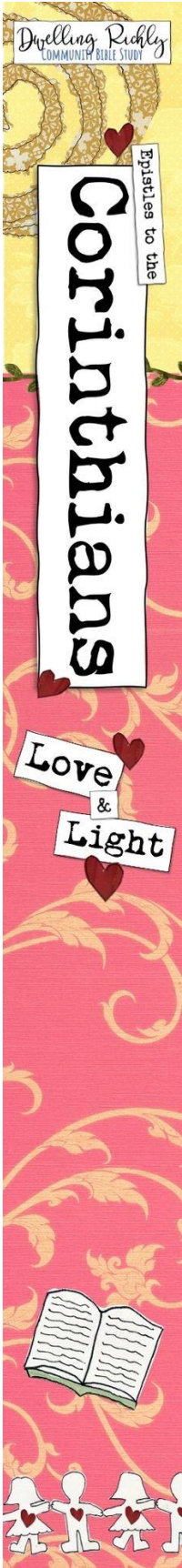
If you didn't answer a question from the previous lesson, please reserve your comments and take notes instead.

***Any questions below marked with an asterisk are open for all to respond.**

Looking back over the previous lesson...

- Welcome!** Share one of your Quiet Time responses.
- Day One...** What principle(s) from the previous message have you tried to apply as you studied through Lesson One? (Refer to your notes pg 17 in Lesson 1)
- Day Two...** Read "**Ready for the Word**" (Lesson 1, pg 20.) How are you actively trying to study with the **Dwelling Richly** mindset? What tips can you share that have helped you **dwell** and not just "do" Bible study?
- Day Three...** Share any big idea or word that stood out to you then share your response to #5
- Day Four...** #5, pg 24
- Day Five...** #1, pg 25*
- Day Six...** #1, pg 27*; Share your response to #4, pg 27
- Day Seven...** #4, pg 29; share also any truths about God you noted
- Day Eight...** #2, let's see your verse! How did you do writing it with your eyes closed?
Share any big ideas you noted in these chapters.
- Day Nine...** What was it like for you reading through 1st Corinthians on this day? Share your response to #4, pg 33
- Day Ten...** (Group leader reads "**Create & Share**") Everyone share what you created.

Lesson Two Day One



Review of Lesson One / 1st Corinthians 1:1-16:24

Watch or listen to this teaching session on the

Dwelling Richly podcast (iTunes, Spotify, any podcast app) or on [YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond](https://www.youtube.com/c/JenniferRichmond)

Lesson Two Day Two

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Getting the Big Picture

- ✓ **BIG PICTURE:** Day Two is always set aside to read the passage we are studying, and this chart corresponds to each day of the lesson.
- ✓ **PEEK AHEAD:** Day Ten is always our "Create & Share" so take a minute to **look ahead** and begin thinking about what you'll be creating and sharing.
- ✓ **STUDY TIP:** All Bible verses are linked to BibleGateway. View lessons online [here](#). Click any link and study with your Bible plus the online Bible as well. Super helpful!

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Commit your time to God before beginning. Deep breath. Ask God to help you "Dwell" not "do."
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** Write this lesson's memory verse and verse reference in the box above. (See page 41.)
- ☐ **Simply Read.** [1 Corinthians 1:1-3:23](#)

...Read & Engage...

Use a highlighter to note **people**, **places**, **key verses**, and concepts as you read. See page 7 for ways to highlight.

Day Three: [1 Corinthians 1:1-9](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18

Day Four: [1 Corinthians 1:10-17](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18

Day Five: [1 Corinthians 1:18-31](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18

Lesson Two Day Two

Day Six: [1 Corinthians 2:1-5](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18

Day Seven: [1 Corinthians 2:6-16](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18

Day Eight: [1 Corinthians 3:1-15](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18

Day Nine: [1 Corinthians 3:16-23](#)

God's Actions/Name/Character

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Word/Phrase/Idea that has me curious...


Connecting to 1st Corinthians 1:18



...My Heart to Yours...

It's amazing to me how quickly I'll get to sleep when I put on some white noise. The static hum filters out the rest of the sounds and even the chatter in my own mind fades so I can sleep. I have an app now that offers not only white but options for brown and even pink noise. I can choose settings that bring in the noises of a busy street, a babbling brook, or a blowing wind. I have a friend who falls asleep to episodes of

"The Office" or "Friends" because she's so familiar with the banter that it's like white noise to her. Sounds that can be white noise work if they are not too loud or specific. They need to be familiar enough so we can relax in the predictability. Is it possible that the truths of our faith can become like white noise? So common are the images and themes that we almost don't see or hear them any more. We can go about our lives with these truths humming somewhere in the background- unnoticed. When faced with serious sin issues in the church Paul alerted the Corinthians to a truth that had become, in a sense, white noise to them - the Cross. Did you catch that in your reading? Division, quarreling, jealousy, strife, immaturity - Paul points them back to one place - the Cross for the fix. Had the truth of the Cross **not** been lost on them, would they have been so defined by their sins? If the power of God through the Cross hadn't faded into white noise, would they have been so prone to gather under the names of Peter or Apollos or Paul? No, with the Cross so present it is large and loud in our view - it's right there reminding us of our greatest hope - God's power and our changed lives because of what He accomplished at the Cross. Bring the Cross to the front of your thoughts throughout the rest of this study and the foolishness of the Cross will make you truly wise. And know as always, that you are loved and prayed for,

 Jennifer

Lesson Two Day Three

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Getting to Know You

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Write three words that represent the desire of your heart. Pray with those words in mind and lay them before your Heavenly Father. Always remember how much He loves you and cares for every aspect of your life.
1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** Write your verse in RED.
- ☐ **Simply Read.** [1 Corinthians 1:1-9](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word.** Use a journal or the Write the Word pages provided to write each day's passage. At the end of this study you'll have 1st and 2nd Corinthians written!

Key Words

- ☐ Paul
- ☐ Apostle
- ☐ Sosthenes
- ☐ Church
- ☐ Corinth
- ☐ Sanctified
- ☐ Saints
- ☐ Fellowship

...Read & Engage...

1. **Key Words:** Look for the Key Words box throughout the lesson. Make it your goal to have a biblical understanding of these people, places, and ideas. At the end of each day check off the words that you feel confident you could explain to a friend. Circle the words you feel you need more time to understand better. Remember, this study is about dwelling in the Word not just "doing" Bible study. *Have fun and learn a ton!*
2. **Hello! My name is, Paul.** (1:1) We met Paul, the author of this letter (epistle) in Lesson One (pg 20.) Let's get to know him a bit better today. Reading in context means knowing who is writing. Context matters, and knowing about the author of a letter will help you understand the letter much better. Read [1 Cor. 1:1, Acts 9:1-31, and Acts 11:25-26](#).
Imagine you are Paul. Describe how your mission in life changed from Acts 9:1 to Acts 11:26. Name at least two key places and two people that will forever be a significant part of your (Paul's) story.



3. **Who are Apostles?** (1:1) Read a dictionary definition of "apostle" then read the following and note details about what an apostle is from the Bible. How is Paul unique among apostles?
[Matthew 10:1-2; Acts 1:21-26; 1 Cor. 15:8](#)
4. **Thankful for...?** What does Paul say he is thankful for in verses 4-9?

Lesson Two Day Three

5. **Dear...?** Whom does Paul name as his "brother" in the opening of his letter? _____ (1:1)
 To whom is Paul writing this epistle? _____ (1:2)

How does Paul describe, share his feelings, or identify the people of the "church" (ἐκκλησία) of God that is in Corinth in these verses:
 1:2

1:4

1:5

1:6

1:9

IT'S GREEK TO ME



ἐκκλησία

"ek-klay-see-ah"

From "out" and "to call"

Translated "church"

Meaning literally to those who are "called out."

6. **Know the Word.** Paul addresses the Corinthians as "sanctified" and "saints" (1:2, NET, ESV, KJV, NASB) Read this verse from several translation like: [Amplified](#), [J.B. Phillips](#), [New Living](#), or [Common English Bible](#) and write a definition for:

Sanctified

Saints

7. **Corinth and Corinthians.** Where is this city? What happened there? What was Paul's relationship with the Corinthians like? How long did Paul stay in Corinth? Read [Acts 18:1-18](#) to find these answers and note people, places, and any other interesting details:

•Aquila & Priscilla

•Claudius

•Tentmakers

•Silas & Timothy

•Titius Justus

•Crispus

•The Corinthians

•Paul's Vision:

•How long Paul stayed:

•Gallio

•Sosthenes

•Other Details:

8. **A Future & a Hope.** (1:7-8) What reality and hope for the future do we have in our Lord Jesus Christ?

9. **Knowing God.** What truths about God do you see in this passage? Read back through 1:1-9 and note how many times and different ways God the Father and God the Son are mentioned. What actions does Paul associate with God and with Jesus? By what names does Paul refer to Jesus? Highlight everything that Christians have received when they are "in Christ Jesus" (1:4)

GOD the FATHER

GOD the SON

10. **Yours. Mine. Ours.** (1:4) What does Paul say that the Corinthians were - and by extension we have been - called into as Christians?

Lesson Two Day Four

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: The Priority of the Gospel

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Thank God for going before you in all you have going on in your life today. Thank Him today for the wisdom He will give you and how He is making a way for you.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** Write your verse above and say it aloud as you write.
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 1:10-17](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage

Key Words

- ☐ Baptize
- ☐ Gospel

...Read & Engage...

1. **Think Back.** (1:4-9) In the opening of this letter, whom did Paul thank and for what was he thankful?
2. **Compare.** Paul wrote between A.D 45-67 to churches in Galatia, Thessalonica, Rome, Philippi, Colossae, Ephesus, and to three people: Philemon, Timothy (twice), and Titus. The letters he wrote to the Corinthians were around A.D. 53-57. Compare these letters and how Paul addressed each of these churches. **How does the letter to the Corinthians compare to these?**

	<u>TONE</u>	<u>REASON FOR WRITING</u>	<u>COMPLIMENTS to the CHURCH</u>
Philippians 1:1-11			
Colossians 1:1-8			
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10			
2 Timothy 1:1-7			
1 Corinthians 1:10-11			
3. **Right to the point.** Summarize Paul's point from 1:10-11 in categories of "do this!" and "don't do that!" How does his admonition connect back to the truth he wrote in 1:9?
4. **Word on the street is...** Word has been brought to Paul by whom and about what issues? Read also [1 Corinthians 5:1 and 11:18](#) for the full report.

Lesson Two Day Four

5. **Who's Who in the Early Church?** Use a concordance or the cross references in your Bible to learn about the people Paul mentions in this passage: Chloe, Apollos, Cephas, Crispus, Gaius.

TIP: Using Biblegateway.com you can enter these names and see any and all mentions of them in the Bible.

Chloe

Apollos

Cephas

Crispus

Gaius*

There are 4 men with this name. Note Gaius of Corinth here.

Stephanus

(his household)

6. **Paul & Baptism.** Read [Acts 9:17-19; 19:1-6](#) and [Galatians 3:27](#) and note details about baptism. Read any other passages about baptism for clarity as well. Why get baptized? When would you get baptized? What happens?

7. **Fix Your Focus.** What does Paul say, if anything was wrong with any of the leaders the Corinthians were following?

8. **I beg you!** Who is Paul begging the Corinthians to follow? What has been the result of following other leaders?

9. **Paul's Priorities.** What does Paul state is the mission Christ gave him? (1:17). Note specifically what ISN'T and what IS his mission.

My Mission is **NOT** this...

My Mission **IS** this...

10. **What is the gospel?** Write a dictionary definition, then find the first mention of "gospel" in the Bible (use a concordance) and at least three other mentions of "gospel" to help you know the meaning. Then read Paul's definition in [1 Corinthians 15:1-4](#) and write the essential concept of what the gospel is:

DICTIONARY DEFINITION:

GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

PAUL'S DEFINITION:

11. **Which is Greater?** Baptism or the Gospel? Clever speech or Cross of Christ? What is the danger of focusing on the words of teachers and church leaders? Read Paul's strong admonition in verse 17 and paraphrase his warning to the church then and by extension to us today:

IT'S GREEK TO ME



εὐαγγέλιον

"eu-ang-el-ee-on"

Literally a "Good News"
Translated "gospel." From
"eu" meaning "well, good"
and "angelos" meaning
messenger.

We get eulogy (good word)
from the same Greek root

Lesson Two Day Five

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: The Ultimate Wisdom or the Greatest Folly

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Ask God to bless and strengthen the women in your Grace Group
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** Write your verse above in *Fun Lettering*
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 1:18-31](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage
- ☐ **Remember:** We are using the New English Translation in this study. You can use any translation, but if there are words or phrases not quite the same, refer to the NET.

Key Words

- ☐ "the cross"
- ☐ Jew
- ☐ Greek
- ☐ Gentile
- ☐ Righteousness
- ☐ Sanctification
- ☐ Redemption

...Read & Engage...

1. **Think Back.** How does Paul refer to Christians - those who are "in Christ?"

1:2 to those who are _____ in Christ Jesus, and _____ to be _____

1:9 called into _____ with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

As described here, do you consider yourself **sanctified**? A **saint**? In **fellowship**? Explain why or why not:

2. **Connecting to the Cross.** (1:17) What did Paul say happens when people speak with eloquent wisdom or clever speech about the gospel?

What happened on "the cross?"

[John 19:16-18](#)

[Ephesians 2:15-16](#)

[Colossians 2:14-15](#)

[Hebrews 10:10](#)

3. **Same Message. Different Understanding.** What is the message about the cross to...

(1:18) "those who are perishing" _____ those who "are being saved" _____

(1:23) "the Jews" _____ "to Gentiles" _____

4. **Let Scripture Interpret Scripture.** What's God's plan for the wise and their wisdom? (1:19)

Read [Isaiah 29:14](#) and note the context of this prophecy. How is the situation with the people in Isaiah similar to what was going on in the Corinthian church?

Lesson Two Day Five

5. **Sarcasm in the Bible.** Paul uses hyperbole (exaggeration) as well as sarcasm to make his point. What exaggerations and sarcasm do you read in 1:20-24? Why do you think Paul uses this tone in his writing? What point is he making?

6. **Actions Have Consequences.** Read [Romans 1:18-20, 28](#). What has God made available to all? What is the result of denying this? How does the passage connect back to 1 Corinthians 1:21?

7. **Making Demands.** What do the Jews demand? The Greeks? The called? What do they each get? How did Jesus engage with Jews and Greeks and the called?

	THEY DEMAND... (if anything)	THEY GET...	WHAT JESUS SAID
Jews			Matthew 16:1-4
Greeks Gentiles			John 18:33-38
the "called"			Matthew 11:25

8. **Consider Your Calling.** (1:26-28) Highlight "God chose." How many times does this phrase occur? ____ How does Paul describe those who God chose and how they came to be called. Does this describe you? Why or why not?

9. **You Would if You Could. But You Can't...Phew!** (1:29) If it wasn't God who had chosen, what do you think people who came to Christ be inclined to do?

10. **Your Relationship with Jesus.** (1:30-31) What is the reason you have a relationship with Jesus? What did Jesus become for you (four things!)? What different would it have made in your life if Jesus hadn't become these four things for you?

Lesson Two Day Six

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: The Power of Knowing "Nothing" But

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Praise God for bringing godly influences into your life
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Write the verse in ALL CAPS
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 2:1-5](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage

...Read & Engage...

1. **Think Back.** How long did Paul stay in Corinth? What did he do while he was there? What were some challenges he faced? How did the Lord reassure him? ([Acts 18:1-11](#))

2. **One-Star Yelp Review?** Write a Yelp review based on the response toward Paul's ministry in Acts 18 and also from [2 Corinthians 10:10](#). How did the opinion of others impact him?



3. **Straight Outta Revelation.** How did Paul learn about the gospel? Read the following and note details of how Paul learned the gospel:

[Galatians 1:11-12, 15-17](#)

[1 Corinthians 15:8](#)

[Ephesians 3:3-4](#)



4. **The Circumstances of Paul's Call.** Paul wrote "Think about the circumstances of your call..." (1:26) Then he goes on to describe the Corinthians as not wise, powerful, or privileged. But what about Paul and his background? What are the circumstances of his call? Note who Paul was when he was called. How did his background differ from the Corinthian church members?

[Acts 16:37; Acts 22:3, 25-29, 23:6](#)

[Philippians 3:5-6](#)

Lesson Two Day Six

5. **Paul's Personal Perspective.** If Paul were being interviewed for a job and asked, "What do you consider your greatest weakness?" what would he say? Consider Paul's own description of himself in 1 Cor. 1:3-4a and Philippians 3:7-8. Use his words to help you write your response:
6. **Paul's Power.** To whom is Paul most interested in pointing the Corinthians (and us!)? How was power demonstrated in Paul's ministry? Consider [Acts 19:11-15](#).
7. **The Power of the Spirit.** This is the first time Paul has spoken of the Holy Spirit and the Spirit is central and very important to his ministry. Read the following and note the connection between power and the Spirit: [Romans 15:13-19](#), [Ephesians 3:16](#), [1 Thessalonians 1:5](#)
8. **The Power of God.** Skim back through 1 Corinthians chapter one and note any mention of God's power. Highlight those in your Bible. Who is the power of God? _____ (1:24) Read [Luke 24:49](#) and [Acts 1:7-8](#) - What did Jesus tell the disciples to do and promise them would happen?
- Read [Acts 2:1-4](#) How were Jesus' word fulfilled? Read [Ephesians 2:17-20](#). What is the power of God?
9. **The Foundation of Your Faith.** Read [1 Cor. 2:5 from several translations](#). Which wording best captures the idea for you? What are ways Christians rest their faith on the wisdom of men? Why do you think Christians do this? How would you talk to a friend if you saw this in her life?
10. **The Power of "nothing but..."** Why is Paul so passionate about the gospel simplified down to "Christ crucified?" Considering Paul's impressive background, what could Paul have "known" among them?
11. **The Simple Gospel.** What would it look like in your life today if you just meditated on that simple message of the gospel - Christ crucified? It was enough for Paul. Is it enough for you?

Lesson Two Day Seven

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Priority Preaching

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Thank God for giving you the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to help you know Him better.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Write your verse above and pray for wisdom in applying this truth.
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 2:6-16](#). Compare translations for clarity.
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **Thinking Back.** From your read-through of 1st Corinthians in Lesson One what do you recall were some of the issues Paul addressed – behaviors, attitudes, relationships, beliefs, etc. Note five issues: (There are at least 15!)
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
 - 3) _____
 - 4) _____
 - 5) _____
2. **Wisdom -vs- wisdom.** In 1 Cor. 1:18-2:5, what has been Paul's point about men's wisdom? What has he taught about God's wisdom?
3. **Setting the Foundation.** Why do you think, after bringing up the issue of division (1:10-15), Paul moves on and teaches about wisdom and not about division?
4. ^{wisdom} ~~A Rose~~ **by Any Other Name...** Paul refers to man's wisdom in several ways. Note as many as you can find from 1 Cor. 1:19-2:6.
5. **Wisdom for Some.** What kind of wisdom is Paul teaching about and to whom? (2:6-7)

Lesson Two Day Seven

6. **The Consequence of Man's Wisdom.** What did those who only had worldly wisdom do? (2:8-10).

What is a defining quality or ultimate destiny of these kinds of people? (1:18, 2:8)

7. **A Long Time Coming.** Paul cites the prophecy from Isaiah 64:4 to help us grasp the wisdom of God that has been hidden in a mystery. Highlight this verse in your Bible. What can you learn about the wisdom and plan of God from the following passages:

[Romans 16:25-26](#)

[Ephesians 3:5, 9](#)

[Colossians 1:26](#)

[2 Timothy 1:9](#)

8. **Revealed to Us?** Who is the "us" Paul is referring to in 2:10? _____ (2:6) Read Jesus' promise in [John 14:26](#). How has that come to pass?

9. **The Gift that Keeps Giving.** What does the Spirit of God provide for the mature? (2:10-13)

10. **Us -vs- Them.** Paul doesn't say "them" exactly, but he is making a distinction between two very specific groups of people. Who are these groups? List the ways Paul identifies each along with the qualities of each (what they can/can't do, do or don't do, etc.) from 1 Cor. 2:6-16.

<u>US</u>	<u>THEM</u>

11. **The Purpose of the Spirit.** For what reason have believers been given the Spirit? (2:12)

12. **Back to the Beginning.** Think back again to Paul's admonition (1:10) and your response to question #3. Why is Paul's emphasis on the Spirit and the mature believer so important? Consider today how you are addressing sin in your own life. Are you beginning with the sin or with the Spirit?

Lesson Two Day Eight

Memorize & Meditate

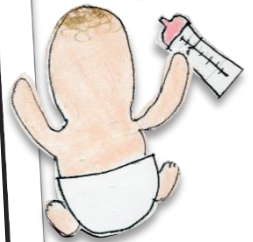
Focus: What does it mean to be a Christian?

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Thank God for this Bible study and how you are growing as a Christian.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Write your verse above and pray for wisdom in applying this truth.
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 3:1-15](#).
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. What does it mean to be a Christian?

2. **Picture it.** Draw snapshots based on Paul's descriptions of "spiritual people" & those who are "people of the flesh." Refer to 1 Corinthians 1:18-3:3.



Do both of these or only one describe people who are Christian? Support your answer with Scripture:

3. **Expectations for Believers.** What does Paul's tone tell you about his expectations for believers?

Lesson Two Day Eight

4. **Three Kinds of People.** What kinds of people does Paul describe? Skim 1 Cor. 1:18-3:15 for details:

	<u>Who They Are/AKA</u>	<u>What They're Like</u>	<u>What's their Destiny?</u>
1 Cor. 2:14			1 Cor. 1:18
1 Cor. 2:15			1 Cor. 1:18
1 Cor 3:1			1 Cor. 1:18

5. **Imagine a Garden.** How does Paul explain the process of growth in the life of a Christian? How was he personally involved in the Corinthian church? (3:5-7)

6. **Imagine a Building.** What does Paul say about the foundation, the building, and the work that building represents? How does he describe his role in building the Corinthians? (3:10-13)

7. **Fire in Our Future?** Review Paul's encouragement in 1 Cor. 1:7-8 and the truth we are reminded of there. What do we have to look forward to as Christians?



Then consider Paul's teaching about the work we do while we await the "revelation of our Lord" (1:8.) What does Paul teach about this work in 3:8-15?

Read carefully: What will be tested by fire? (3:13, 15) _____
Does a Christian need to be concerned about this fire? Why or why not?

8. **Think Back.** Review what you wrote to question #1. Is there anything you can add to your response based on reading and studying further in this passage?



Lesson Two Day Nine

Memorize & Meditate

Focus: Y'all Are God's Temple

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Ask God for a humble spirit.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Pause and write slowly and thoughtfully. Can you recite this verse from memory?
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 3:16-23](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage.

...Read & Engage...

1. **All y'all.** Look closely in your Bible. There is probably a little number in verse 16 by the word "you." Now look at the note for that number in the margin of your Bible. What helpful information do you see there?

IT'S GREEK TO ME



οἰκέω

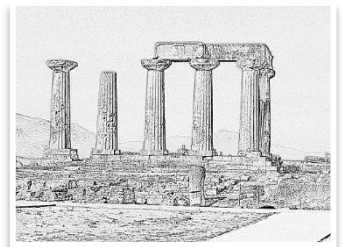
"oy-keh-oh"

To make a home or to be
at home; to live in
Translated "dwells" or
"lives in"

2. **Our Identity as a Church.** What does church mean to you personally?

What does Paul teach that the church as group is? (3:16-17) What other truths about us as the church does Paul make clear in these verses?

3. **Context. Context. Context.** Consider what the word "temple" would have brought to the mind of a woman living in 1st century Corinth. How might Paul's teaching have impacted you if you were in the church while his letter was being read? Write a diary entry as if you were a woman living in this time, hearing this letter, and processing this information:



Lesson Two Day Nine

4. **A Serious Warning.** What is Paul's warning in 3:18? Do you think it's easy or difficult to deceive your own self? How so?
5. **Start Here: Fear God.** Read the following. What should you do to avoid self-deception?
Proverbs 3:7

Romans 12:16

Galatians 6:1-3
6. **Avoid This.** The entire point of Paul's warning goes back to the original issue he is addressing. Review that in 1 Cor. 1:10-13, 3:4-5. Summarize the issue:
7. **Repeated for Emphasis.** What truth does Paul state, elaborate on, then repeat again in 3:21-22. Why do you think he repeats this? What point is he working hard to make?
8. **Focus on This:** Had the Corinthian church been focused on the truth, would any of this have been an issue? What is that central truth? (Hint: you've been memorizing it!)
9. **Final Word.** Summarize Paul's point and especially the promise we have in 3:21-23.
10. **Wise Up.** If there was one thing you studied in chapters 1-3 that helped you make a shift in your thinking, what would it be?

Lesson Two Day Ten

Memorize & Meditate

Create & Share

The inspiration of this Bible study comes from Colossians 3:16

"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly."

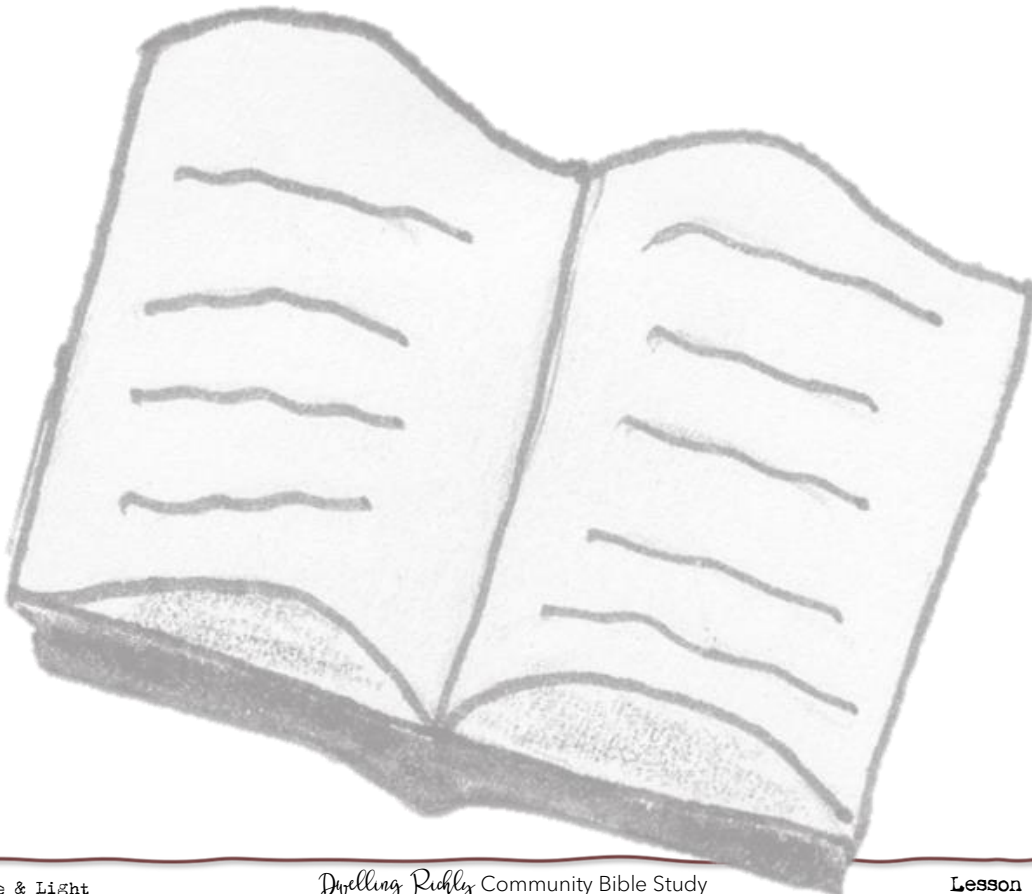
I wrote about this in the introduction. Read that when you have a minute if you haven't already.

The idea is that instead of "doing" Bible study we'd do what God has asked us to do and let His words "dwell" in us.

You might be coming to this Bible study having read the Bible and studied it many, many times. Bible study has always been part of your life. Or perhaps Bible study is newer to you. Maybe this is the first time you've even been in a Bible study group before.

What has it looked like for you to let the Word dwell in you? What do you hope it will look like as you mature in your relationship with God and His Word? How will you "dwell" and not just "do" Bible study through Corinthians?

Write words or phrases on the Bible below that are significant to you in how you have or hope to begin letting the Word of Christ dwell in you richly:



Hi!

Hey, aren't the illustrations in this study darling? My dear friend, Amy Downing, is collaborating with me as she has in the past studies to create these playful, meaningful, and creative images. I invite you to check out her website at www.TheCreativeFarmgirl.com where she has a wonderful store of greeting cards, note books, calendars, and more - all with her signature style. And follow Amy on Instagram or Facebook @TheCreativeFarmgirl and let her know how much you love her work!

Blessings,

 Jennifer





"Let the Word of Christ
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16