

Epistles to the

# Corinthians

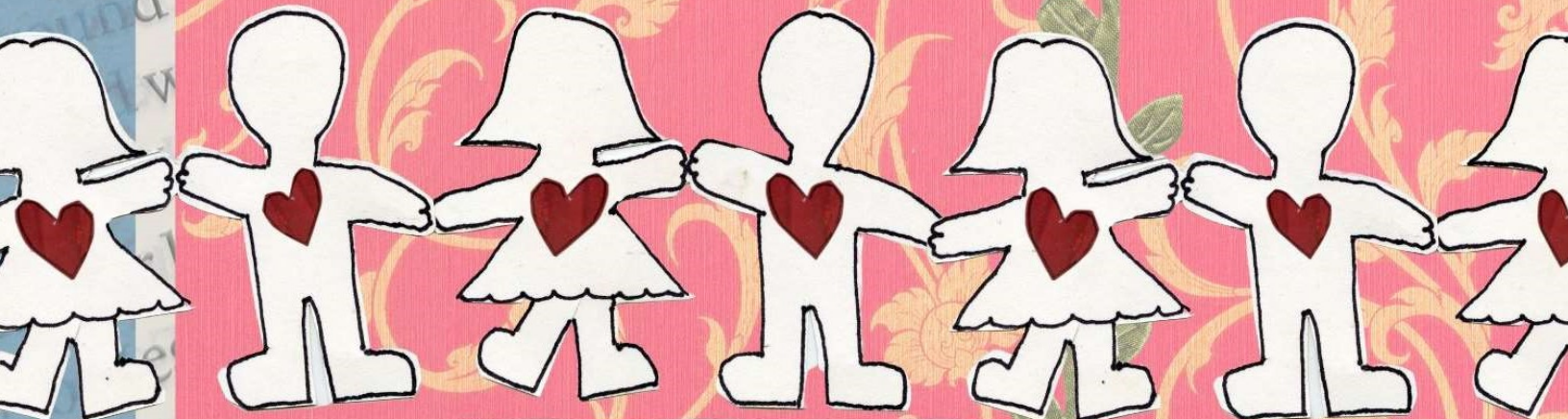
Love

&

Light

## Lesson Three

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 4:1-7:40



"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 Three 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>October 4 or 5</u>	Day 1...	<a href="#">Review Message</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 2...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 4:1-7:40</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 3...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 4:1-21</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 4...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 5:1-13</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 5...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 6:1-11</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 6...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 6:12-20</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 7...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 7:1-16</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 8...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 7:17-24</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 9...	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 7:25-40</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Day 10...	<a href="#">Create &amp; Share</a>

## ...Meditate & Memorize...

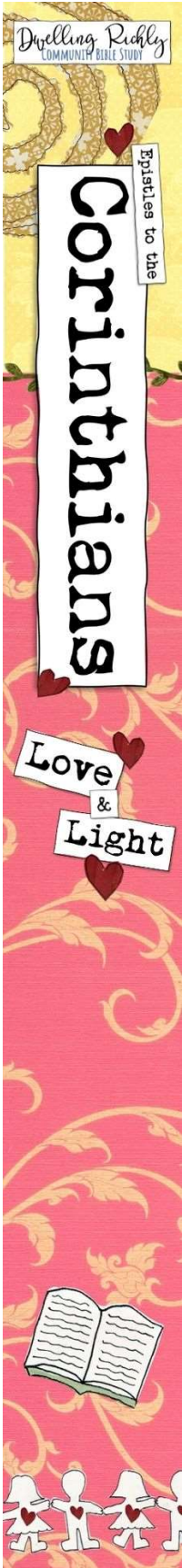
This Lesson we are memorizing  
[1 Corinthians 6:19b-20](#)

Get the wallpaper of this verse  
and use that on your phone to  
help keep God's Word  
in front of you every day.

Download this wallpaper at  
[JenniferGRichmond.com/corinthians-lessons-  
messages-printables/](https://jennifergrichmond.com/corinthians-lessons-messages-printables/)



# Lesson Three Day One



## ...Quiet Time...

- **Shift gears and prepare** for our time together. 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 below and prepare your heart for Grace Groups.
- **New?** Didn't finish the previous study? We're glad you're here! Complete the following prompts, or read/skim 1 Corinthians 4:1-7:40

1. **Reflect.** What stands out to you as a word, idea, or concept you learned going through this past lesson?

2. **Connect.** Paul said, "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." Why do you think this was so essential to him?










3. **Grow.** What does it look like in your life to "let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly?" How is this approach different than "doing" Bible study?

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 Three 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.

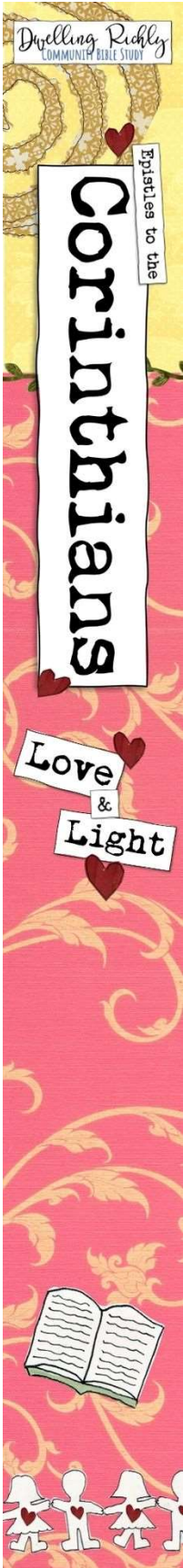
## ...Grace Group Discussion...

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.**

- Day One...** \*Page 44 (Lesson 2) What principle(s) from the previous message have you tried to apply as you studied through Lesson One?
- Day Two...** \*Page 46, (after "My Heart to Yours") Do you find it easy or challenging to think of the Cross and what it means to you in your daily life? How so?
- Day Three...** Page 47, #2; pg 48 # 9
- Day Four...** Page 50, #6 & #8
- Day Five...** Page 52, #10
- Day Six...** Page 53, #2, 9, or 10 - share any or all of your responses depending on the time your group has.
- Day Seven...** Page 55, #3 and #12
- Day Eight...** Page 57 - Let's see your drawings! - #2, then #7 or #8 (or both if you have time)
- Day Nine...** \*Page 59, share any response from this day
- Day Ten...** (Group leader reads "Create & Share") Everyone share what you created.

# Lesson Three Day One



## Review of Lesson Two / 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:1-3:23

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 Three Day Two

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: Getting the Big Picture

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Write three prayer requests or praises below. Who is on your mind? What situations? How can you thank God today? What are you praying that you'll be able to do in this lesson?
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** Write this lesson's memory verse and verse reference in the box above. (See page 65.)
- ☐ **Simply Read.** [1 Corinthians 4:1-7:40](#)
- ☐ **Peek Head** Today is a good day to skip to Day Ten and see what's coming up for the Create and Share.

### ...Read & Engage...

#### Day Three: 1 Corinthians 4:1-21 Note any repeated words or phrases

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

#### Day Four: 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

#### Day Five: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 Note any repeated words or phrases

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

#### Day Six: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 Note any repeated words or phrases

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

# Lesson Three Day Two

## Day Seven: 1 Corinthians 7:1-16

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

## Day Eight: 1 Corinthians 7:17-24 – Note any repeated words or phrases

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

## Day Nine: 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

God's Actions/Name/Character

Word/Phrase/Ideas

Key People/Places/Illustrations

Connecting to 1st Corinthians 6:19b-20

### ...My Heart to Yours...



When I was about seven years old, I walked into the kitchen where my mom was drying dishes, and standing a bit behind her I asked with big, hopeful eyes, "Mommy, can I have..."

At that time in that season of our little family's life we were living in a parsonage behind our church where my dad was the pastor of small, new congregation. We lived the simple and tightly budgeted life of a pastor's family. My mom cooked every meal, sewed many of our clothes, and created a home from the donations of food, clothing, furniture, and appliances we were blessed to receive from kind church members. Where money was sparce love abounded...but money was still sparce and life was a challenge for my parents as a young couple in full-time ministry with three children.

So, when her little girl came with pleading eyes with a request for something, my mom in that moment felt the tug of a mother wanting to give her child anything she desired and the counter pull of a wife and woman feeling the pressure of being a pastor's wife and living on less than \$100 a week. And in that moment instead of waiting for me to finish my request my weary mother turned from the sink counter, interrupted me, and said in an uncharacteristically impatient tone, "You can't have anything. We don't have money for anything."

... silence...

She knew she had spoken harshly. My little eyes grew big and welled up with little tears, I lowered my head, and my hands came up to my chin clutching a small photo I had clipped from a magazine. She must have been up to "here" with bills and requests and "life" and in that moment I may as well be asking for a horse or the moon. She felt pain of disappointing me as she imagined her inability to grant any wish at all. I looked back up to her, handed her the crumpled photo, and said, sheepishly, "...all I wanted was a turtle." My mom's heart melted and she actually smiled a bit, caught off guard by my request and perhaps her own overreaction. Set her dish towel aside and pulled me close to her.

The cares and distractions of married life, mom life, and life in general all had overcome her, but in that moment, we connected over hopes and desires and all that we wanted and couldn't have, longed for and might find a way to get. Above all, my mom and I had a moment to thank God together for what He was providing and that even if we couldn't feed another mouth at that time, we had reason to look to our heavenly Father for the greater mission we had in Him. I don't recall every detail, but I have a lasting memory that my mom was pointing me to Jesus and how our lives - as distracted by cares and concerns as they can get - should always be aimed at our higher calling. I know her mission was to help me see and secure my undivided devotion to the Lord. I pray that in this coming lesson you too will see the great calling of the kingdom and know that you have a great mission as well.



# Lesson Three Day Three

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: Paul: the Faithful Father

- ☐ **Pause & Pray.** Begin by asking God what it looks like to be "found faithful."
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate.** Write your verse in RED.
- ☐ **Simply Read.** [1 Corinthians 4:1-21](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word.** Write today's passage in your journal or Write the Word pages.

#### Key Words

- ☐ Servant
- ☐ Steward
- ☐ Faithful
- ☐ Apostle

### ...Read & Engage...

1. **Key Words:** Write the words from the Key Word box. After each, write a simple definition or any details you already know about that word in a biblical context:

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2. **Context.** Look back over 1 Cor. 3:21-23. What is Paul writing about – especially concerning himself, Apollos, and Cephas? What issue has Paul been addressing? Why does Paul specifically mention these men along with himself? Consider also, 1 Cor. 1:10-13.

3. **Think of us like...** (4:1) How does Paul want people to think of "us," and besides himself, who does the "us" include. (Hint: Consider the context)

*as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.*

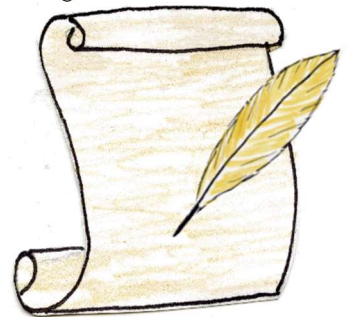
*Himself, Cephas and Apollos – by extension – any called – so all of us who are "Saints"*

4. **What kind of servant? What kind of steward?** (4:2) What does Paul say is the essential job description of the kind of servant and steward God requires?

*that he be "faithful". It was not such a steward's duty to create the truths to be dispensed, but to faithfully dispense what he had been given by Another. Nor was it the concern of the steward to make sure he was well-liked in dispensing what he had been given; nor to make sure that he only dispensed what was attractive and desirable to the people. A preacher's main responsibility is to make ask himself three things: (1) Is the word of God well preached? (2) Are the people of God well fed? (3) Is the God who sent him well pleased?*

## Lesson Three Day Three

5. **Judge or Don't Judge?** How many times does Paul bring up the idea of judgement in 4:3-4-5? \_\_\_\_ Underline each in your Bible. What are Paul's thoughts on personally...  
...being judged:  
...judging himself:  
...the Lord's judgment:  
What conclusion does Paul make about judgment? Note **two things** for us to do and **three things** you learned about God:
6. **Sufficiency of Scripture.** Skim back through chapters 1-3. Paul has referred back to God's Word (the Old Testament) five times. Note those passages here. What does Paul teach about what is written in Scripture? What does that mean we need to be careful about today?
7. **The World's Standards or God's?** (4:7-13) Paul confronts the Corinthians because they're valuing themselves by the world's standards. What rhetorical questions does he ask to get them (and us) rethinking their mindset? What is the answer Paul is trying to get them (and us) to find?
8. **Correcting or Shaming?** (4:14-17) How does Paul share his heart and hope for his brothers and sisters in Christ? What does he urge them to do? Do you think this seems odd? Should a pastor or teacher today follow Paul's example in leading their church?
9. **Wait 'till your <sup>Paul</sup> Father Gets Home.** Imagine you are in the congregation when this letter is being read aloud. Write a diary entry with your thoughts and responses to this portion from 4:14-21. How do you feel about Timothy? Paul? What truths about Jesus and God are you coming to understand? How does Paul seem fatherly to you? How would you respond to Paul's rhetorical question in verse 21?
10. **Living in Love & Light.** Based on today's passage, how would you sum up the essential truth or call you have if you take seriously to live in the Love & Light of your calling?



# Lesson Three Day Four

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: Paul: the Faithful Father

- ☐ Pause & Pray.
- ☐ Memorize & Meditate. Write
- ☐ Simply Read: [1 Corinthians 5:1-13](#)
- ☐ Write the Word: Write today's passage

### Key Word

- ☐ Passover Lamb

## ...Read & Engage...

1. **Paul's Call.** Paul's calling was unique among all the apostles. He was "untimely born" because he wasn't called while Jesus was still walking this earth. Jesus appeared to him personally and powerfully and gave Paul a specific mission. Read Acts 26:14-18? What did Jesus specifically call Paul to do and how is he fulfilling that *especially in light* of what he wrote to the Corinthians in today's passage?



2. **News from Corinth.** (5:1-2) What was reported to Paul about sin in the church and their attitudes about it? What was particularly shocking about this sin?
3. **To Judge or Not to Judge?** What had Paul said about judging in 4:3-5? What is he saying now? (5:3) Is this a contradiction? Why or why not? Before responding, considering the following verses and "let Scripture interpret Scripture" and help you avoid misunderstanding what it means to live the Christian life.  
[John 7:24](#), [1 Thessalonians 5:21](#), [Galatians 6:1](#), [Ephesians 4:15](#)

4. **Hit the Road, Jack.** Paul's not there with them, but he commands specific actions in light of what was going on. Carefully read 5:4-5 and note the following about what, why, when, and how he instructs them to respond:

Paul's Command:

Paul's Authority:

The Timing:

The Result:

# Lesson Three Day Four



5. **Well, that escalated quickly.** What does Paul compare yeast to in our lives? Do you think this is a helpful analogy?

6. **Lamb, dough and a party?** What does a dinner menu and a festival have to do with Jesus and sin? Read the following to get some perspective and remember who would have been reading/hearing Paul's letter – Jews who are now Christians – so they would have had a strong association with what Paul was saying.

**Yeast/Leavening:** [Exodus 13:3, 14](#); [Deuteronomy 16:3](#) – What was yeast to remind the Jews of? When then is Paul saying now about the yeast in their assembly?

**Passover Lamb/Jesus:** [Leviticus 2:4-8](#); [John 1:29](#); [1 Cor. 5:7b](#); [Hebrews 7:27](#) – Why is Jesus connected with the Passover festival?

7. **Saints and Sinners.** What are Paul's instructions about associating with immoral people? Is it possible to completely have no contact with anyone who is sinning?

8. **Haven't we already covered this?** (5:9-10) What had Paul written to the Corinthians about in his previous letter? How had they misapplied that instruction and how did that connect to the sin issue going on now? (5:1)

9. **Bearing the Name.** What instruction does Paul double-down on in 5:9, 11?



How is this instruction going to impact their church immediately if they obey his instructions? (5:2, 5, 7, 11)

Does this seem shocking to you? Harsh? Unrealistic? Why or why not? Support your response with Scripture:

10. **The Principle of Purity.** What sins does Paul list and what instruction does he give to Christians in 5:11-12

## INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_

11. **Outsiders and Insiders?** Who judges outsiders? Who judges insiders? What does God command concerning evil insiders?

12. **Living in Love & Light.** Based on today's passage, how would you sum up the essential truth or call you have if you take seriously to live in the Love & Light of your calling?

# Lesson Three Day Five

Memorize & Meditate

## Focus: Destiny of the Saints

- ☐ **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 6:1-11](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage

### Key Words

- ☐ unrighteous
- ☐ saints
- ☐ the church
- ☐ kingdom of God
- ☐ sanctified
- ☐ justified

## ...Read & Engage...

1. **Speaking of Judging...** What has Paul been addressing in the previous chapters? (4:3-5, 5:3, 12-13)



What behavior does Paul address in 6:1-8?

How would you describe Paul's reaction to what they're doing?

Note especially what Paul calls people outside the church (5:12-13) and those who are in the church.

OUTSIDE: \_\_\_\_\_ INSIDE: \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Sinners, Saints, & Angels.** What does the Bible teach is one part of the destiny for saints? Sinners? Angels?

[1 Corinthians 6:2](#)

[Matthew 19:28](#)

[Revelation 20:4](#)

[1 Corinthians 6:3](#)

[2 Peter 2:4](#)

[Jude 6](#)

3. **If that's our future, how much more our present?** So, Paul is arguing that we should behave with our future in mind, and he's shocked that any saint (Christian) would think or behave otherwise. Skim through all of chapter 6 and highlight each time Paul asks, "do you not know?" Note each of those phrases and what it is that Paul assumes a Christian should know:

# Lesson Three Day Five



**4. Keep it in the Family.** What did Paul say are the alternative to taking one another to secular court? (6:5-7)

How does this compare with Jesus' own teaching in [Matthew 5:39-40](#)?

**5. The Kingdom of God.** The Bible has a lot to say about the kingdom of God and Paul is making an important point about those who are of this world and those who are of God's kingdom. Read the following and understand more about God's kingdom. NOTE: Matthew refers to the kingdom of Heaven and Jesus uses the phrases interchangeably (Matt. 19:23-24)

[Mark 10:13-15](#)

[Matthew 5:3, 10](#)

[John 3:3-6](#)

[Romans 14:17](#)

[1 Cor. 4:20](#)

[Hebrews 12:22-23, 28](#)

**6. Inheriting the Kingdom of God...or not?** What general category of people **will not** inherit the kingdom of God? (6:9) \_\_\_\_\_

What specific sins does Paul list to describe the unrighteous? (6:9-10)

Why do you think Paul takes the time to make a list - and remember that he had already noted other sins in 5:11.

**7. That was then. This is now.** What truth about their past and reminder of their present does Paul point out?

6:11a \_\_\_\_\_

6:11b \_\_\_\_\_

What difference should knowing that you've been washed, sanctified, and justified make? Consider what Paul has already said in 1 Cor. 1:30-31 and consider how you answered question 10 on page 52 (Lesson 2/Day 5)

**8. Living in Love & Light.** Based on today's passage, how would you sum up the essential truth or call you have if you take seriously to live in the Love & Light of your calling?



# Lesson Three Day Six

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: The Purpose of my Life

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Praise God for bringing godly influences into your life
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Write the verse in ALL CAPS
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 6:12-20](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage

### ...Read & Engage...

1. **Think Back.** What **problems** has Paul addressed and what has he pointed to as the **resolution**?

Chapters 1-3

1:30, 2:16, 3:23

Chapter 5

5:7, 13

Chapter 6:1-11

6:11

2. **Self-Justified or Christ-Justified.** What were the sinful Corinthians saying to justify their bad behavior? How did Paul respond to get them thinking biblically?

	<u>Justifying Bad Behavior</u> Worldly Thinking	<u>Truly Justified</u> Thinking Biblically
6:12a		
6:12b		
6:13a		

3. **The Sure Thing.** Paul points to one massive and ultimate truth to help us stay focused on living a holy life in our body and behavior. What is that truth and why should grasping this have an impact on how we live? (6:14)



# Lesson Three Day Six

4. **Let Scripture Interpret Scripture.** (6:16) Paul quotes from one of the earliest truths God ever spoke. Write that verse here from Genesis 2:24



What amazing connection is he making to help the Corinthians and us today grasp how we should live?

Why is the world's view of sexual behavior so different?

5. **Corinthians in Context.** Recall what you've learned about the city of Corinth in Paul's time. What do you know about their daily life and religious practices that give you insight into how they might have responded to hearing the Christian expectations for sexuality?

6. **A Dwelling that Dashes.** What is the command when it comes to sexual sin and what is the reason? (6:18-19)

## IT'S GREEK TO ME



ναός

"nah-os"

From the verb "to dwell" a divine dwelling, a temple

7. **Special Nature of Sexual Sin.** How is sexual sin unique from other sin? Do you think this is hard for people to accept? Why or why not?

8. **Knowing the Why.** Why should you be holy? What gives you confidence, makes you strive for more than this world's ways, and gives you a mission in life? Why is living holy as a Christian any different than being a good person under the title of any other religion like Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, or even atheism?

6:14

6:15-18

6:19

9. **Make it Personal.** Rewrite 1 Corinthians 6:20 as a statement of truth and personal commitment about who you are in Christ and how you will therefore live:

➔ Listen to "[I Belong to You](#)" on our "Love & Light" Spotify playlist.

# Lesson Three Day Seven

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: Sexual Purity

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Pray and meditate on the memory verse.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Take time to meditate on this verse before continuing in the study.
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 7:1-16](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage.

### ...Read & Engage...

1. **Pen Pals with Paul.** We know that 1st Corinthians is not the only letter to this church, let alone the first letter. What do you learn about their letter writing from 1 Cor. 6:9 and now in 1 Cor. 7:1? What did each of them (Paul and the Corinthian church) have to say about sexual relations?
2. **Taking it Too Far.** Based on what Paul had taught in that previous letter and then affirmed in 1 Cor. 6:9, what does their statement (1 Cor. 7:1) tell you about their understanding? Are they on the right track? Does Paul redirect them or affirm what they've written? Read and get a feel for what Paul is trying to help them grasp in 1 Cor. 7:2.
3. **Do's & Don'ts After "I do."** What is the biblical view of sex? Paraphrase the ways a husband and a wife should and should not engage based on 7:2-5a.
4. **Fasting from Sex?** Is there any reason married couples should take a break from sexual relations? Explain Paul's teaching and what should be done during that time?



# Lesson Three Day Seven

5. **A Concession, not a Command.** Why do you think Paul clarifies his teaching about taking a break from sex? (7:6)

6. **Another Concession.** Paul models his concession after Jesus' own teaching. What did Jesus say was the reason that divorce was permitted? Read Matthew 19:1-12. What did Jesus teach about marriage and divorce?

## IT'S GREEK TO ME



χάρισμα

"cha-ris-ma"

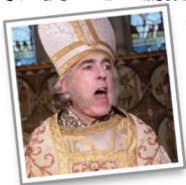
From the root meaning "grace." Translated "gift" in 1 Cor. 1:7, 7:7 and elsewhere

7. **Grace for Paul.** (7:7-9) How does Paul view his own singleness?

If you are single at this time in your life, do you feel the same way that Paul did? Why or why not?

8. **Living God's Way.** What is Paul's teaching to the unmarried and widows? What is his rationale? What impact do you think this would have on our society if people accepted and lived by this teaching?

9. **To the Married and the Rest.** Remember that Paul had a unique encounter with Jesus. He was privately tutored by the Lord Himself. So, Paul is careful then to be clear about what the Lord specifically taught and what understanding he brought together based on what Jesus had taught before - recorded in the gospels. Paraphrase Paul's instructions about marriage and divorce under each category:



"Not I, but the Lord" (7:10-11)

"I, not the Lord" (7:12-14)

10. **The Priority of Peace.** What happens if a woman or man is left by their unbelieving spouse? What is the call to the Christian in this kind of situation? (7:15) What is the ultimate hope? (7:16)

11. **Living in Love & Light.** Based on today's passage, how would you sum up the essential truth or call you have if you take seriously to live in the Love & Light of your calling?

# Lesson Three Day Eight

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: Live as We Were Called

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** Ask God for renewed focus today.
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** Write your verse in ALL CAPS.
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 7:17-24](#).
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage.

#### Key Words

- ☐ Circumcised

### ...Read & Engage...

1. **It Didn't Just Happen.** What do you know about how Paul came to be a Christian? Consider his own words in the opening of this letter along with 1 Corinthians 15:9.

What about the Corinthians? How did they become Christians? (Also consider Paul's remarks at the opening of Corinthians.)

What word is in common with how Paul and the Corinthians all came to be Christians? (1:1, 1:2, 1:9, 1:24, 1:26) \_\_\_\_\_

The very Greek word we translate "church" is rooted in this word. Do you recall that word from Lesson Two? **Hint:** Look at the in the "It's Greek to Me" box on page 48  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Try writing the Greek letters)

What can you learn about who God is from understanding this?

2. **Keep it in Context.** What issue has Paul been addressing in chapter seven?

3. **Principle of Repetition.** When a concept, word, or phrase is repeated, we should take note. Review today's passage with an eye for repetition. What phrase or word do you notice?

Keeping it in context, include 7:15. What point do you see Paul really trying to make?

# Lesson Three Day Eight

4. **Instructions to the Called.** Review and organize Paul's instructions to these groups of people in 7:17-24, then include another group based on your reading in any portion of chapter seven.

	<u>Circumcised/Uncircumcised</u>	<u>Slave/Free</u>	<u>/</u>
Verses			
Basic Instructions			
The Principle			



5. **Unique to Corinthians or...?** Are these instructions about "remaining as you were called" unique to the Corinthians or a general principle to all churches? What do you think?

6. **Circumcised or Uncircumcised.** Who do these groups represent? Read Ephesians 2:11.

Which group were you in when you were called to be a saint?

7. **The Call of a Saint.** Read [Ephesians 6:6](#), [Colossians 3:24](#), [1 Peter 2:16](#), and [1 Cor. 7:22](#). What does this teach you about your identity as one who has been called to be a saint?

8. **Bought with a Price?** This is the second time Paul has referenced being "bought with a price." Highlight the phrases in your Bible in **7:23** as well as **6:20**. This is the only occurrence of this phrase in the Bible but the concept begins in Genesis and goes through Revelation! We'll get into the idea more in the coming message. For now, read the following and begin to understand this great truth and what it means for your life today:

[Matthew 20:28](#), [Acts 20:28](#), [1 Cor. 6:20](#), [1 Cor. 7:23](#), [1 Peter 2:24](#)

What did Jesus say?

Who was bought?

Who did the "buying?"

What was the price?

With this truth in mind, how should those who were "called to be saints" live?

# Lesson Three Day Nine

## Memorize & Meditate

### Focus: The Priority of an Eternal Perspective

- ☐ **Pause & Pray:** for God to help you see anything that is keeping you from having an eternal perspective
- ☐ **Memorize & Meditate:** How are you living out the truth of this verse today?
- ☐ **Simply Read:** [1 Corinthians 7:25-40](#)
- ☐ **Write the Word:** Write today's passage.

### ...Read & Engage...

1. **All the Single Ladies...and Men.** What does Paul have to say to the virgins - single, unmarried people? (7:26)

How does the basis for his instruction differ from what he said in 7:10?

Why should we trust Paul's statement...or is an opinion we can disregard? Consider 7:25 and 7:40

#### IT'S GREEK TO ME



παρθένων

"par-theh-non"

A virgin. Translated  
"betrothed," "unmarried,"

2. **A Sense of Urgency.** Paul has the current state of this world very present in his mind as he teaches. He refers to it over and over again in this passage. Read carefully back through this passage and note Paul's frequent references to this world and the current situations:

[v. 26](#) \_\_\_\_\_

[v. 29](#) \_\_\_\_\_

[v. 31](#) \_\_\_\_\_

[v. 32](#) \_\_\_\_\_



3. **The Bottom Line.** Married or not, Paul has an essential teaching for all. Summarize 7:26-27.

How does Paul's admonition here connect to what he had been teaching in 7:15, 17, 20, 24?

# Lesson Three Day Nine

4. **A Day in the Life.** [Read 7:29b-31a](#) from several translations - J.B. Phillips, Amplified, and The Message are helpful. How would living with this mindset impact your life on a very practical level? What would a day in your life look like if you embraced the point Paul is making here? Would it change anything for you? How so or not?

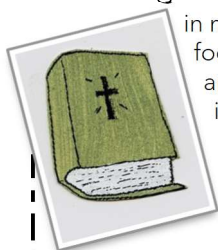
5. **Concerning Worldly Things.** What things are you concerned about in your life? Prayerfully consider any situations going on under the following categories that apply:

<u>WORK</u>	<u>MARRIAGE/SINGLENES</u>	<u>CHILDREN/GRANDCHILDREN</u>	<u>FAMILY</u> Parents/Siblings/etc.	<u>FRIENDSHIPS</u>

6. **Sex, Waiting, and Avoiding Sin.** What is Paul's advice to engaged couples? Do you think this is a realistic expectation in today's society? Support your answer with Scripture (7:36-38)

7. **Remarrying or Not?** What's the biblical answer and what was Paul's preference? (7:39-40)

8. **Thinking Biblically.** Read 1 Corinthians 6:19b-20, 6:15b, and 7:35b. With these truths and expectation for holy living in mind, review your answer to question #5 above. Pray with one area of your life (family, friends, work, etc) in focus and really ask God to search your heart. Are you living a distracted life? Are you living as called, "to peace" and "promoting good order?" Is there room to resubmit your will and plans to the Father and live more intentionally in view of this "present crisis?" Write your prayer or your thoughts about this:



# Lesson Two Day Ten

## Memorize & Meditate

### Create & Share

We have covered many significant truths in these passages, haven't we?  
At the close of each day, I've asked you to think about the essential truth presented - especially how you would live because of the "Love & Light" of your call.  
Our memory verse, "You are not your own, you were bought with a price, so, glorify God in your body." is the over-arching truth, isn't it?  
Paul then moved in on specific areas of our lives - especially as they were dividing the Corinthian church. And we saw how true each of those issues can be in our own lives.  
Today, as we wrap up, we're going to revisit a simple and well-loved illustration to keep as a lasting reminder of our call to glorify God in our bodies and with the same goal in mind that Paul had as he ministered to the Corinthians 2000 years ago.

Follow the directions below and please join me at  
[www.YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond](http://www.YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond) to do this Create & Share with me.

#### MATERIALS

- 16oz Mason jar with lid
- 3x3" fabric square
- 10-12" yarn or jute
- 5-6 smooth stones or walnuts
- ½ Cup pebbles or ½" wooden beads
- 1 ½ C rice or sand
- The "Girl with Heart" tag
- Markers or paint

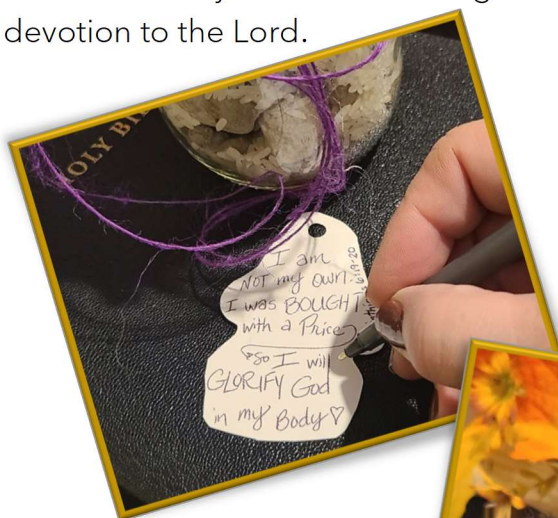
All these supplies were available at Bible study when you picked up your lesson.  
Didn't get a kit? Your Grace Group leader will be happy to get one to you.



DIRECTIONS ON BACK →

## Directions

1. Join me on YouTube to do this Create & Share together.
2. This is not a "Priorities Jar" That's the classic (worldly) use of this illustration. This is different. As a Christian, it's God's calling, your mission and identity that are in focus. As you paint your stones, keep that in mind.
3. Wash the stones and write words that remind you of your priorities as a saint, called by God - based on your reading through 1 Corinthians. A Sharpie or white paint pen works well.
4. Place the stones in the jar followed by the pebbles, then fill to the top with rice.
5. Place the fabric across the seal on top of the jar then screw on the lid to keep it in place.
6. Tie a ribbon around the mouth of the jar
7. Trim the girl with a heart tag.
8. Write your Bible verse - 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - in the first person "I am not my own..." - on the back of the girl/heart tag and tie her to your jar.
9. Use your jar in your home as a daily reminder of living a holy life as a saint called to live in undivided devotion to the Lord.







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

Colossians 3:16