

Corinthians: More Questions

Whether you are working through this Bible study by yourself or in a group, here are some additional questions (referenced to the chapters in *1 & 2 Corinthians: Finding Your Unique Place in God's Plan*) which will help you apply the Scripture to your life:

Chapter 1

- What are some common signs of Christian immaturity? What do immature Christians need to realize in order to grow out of such immature behavior?
- Do you think that the degree of immorality in the surrounding culture has an impact on a Christian's ability to live according to Christ's principles? Should it? Explain your answer.
- How can a mature Christian give suggestions to an immature Christian without being offensive or seeming judgmental in the process?

Chapter 2

- Identify the "blessings" that Paul wants the Corinthian Christians to be reminded of. Why do you think he wanted them to reflect on these blessings?
- Wouldn't it be easier to witness if God's wisdom didn't appear to be foolishness to the world? How is it that people can overcome this apparent obstacle?
- What does it mean to "have the mind of Christ?" How does this affect your thinking?

Chapter 3

- What evidence did Paul have that made him refer to the Corinthians as "worldly" Christians?
- What pressures are on Christians leaders that others don't have?
- Was Paul being unfairly judgmental, or was he justified in his analysis of the Corinthians spiritual condition? Explain your answer.

Chapter 4

- How would deal with a Christian friend who is stuck in sexual sin? Explain the steps that you would take. What if your friend was resistant to you efforts?
- Why is sexual immorality such a problem? What can Christians do to guard against it?
- Who would you rather have deal with your failings: a secular judge or Christians in your church? Explain why you chose one and rejected the other.

Chapter 5

- As far as divorce is concerned, what are some of the similarities between the society of Corinth and our present culture? What are some of the differences?
- What proactive steps can a Christian couple take to insulate their marriage from the possibility of divorce?
- Did Paul get sidetracked with this discussion of divorce, or does it fit into the flow of what he was saying? Why did he put include these comments at this point?

Chapter 6

- Some immature Christians can be extreme and easily offended? What are some practical guidelines about where we draw the line in limiting our liberty so as not to be a stumbling block to others?
- Paul says that he works hard at being a Christian (equivalent to the training regime of an Olympic athlete). Give an analogy for how hard you work at the disciplines of your Christian life.
- What assistance does God give to us in resisting temptation? (Hint: Look at 1 Corinthians 10:13.) What does this verse mean? What does this verse do to your excuses for sin?

Chapter 7

- Quick: Name three or four principles that you have learned about worship and communion from 1 Corinthians 11.
- What are the things that distract you from meaningful worship? Are these the fault of others (who are doing those distracting activities) or your own lack of concentration on Christ?
- What is the symbolism and general significance of communion? What is its significance to you?

Chapter 8

- Within the context of the Christian “body,” which is more important: unity or diversity?
- How is it that spiritual gifts can benefit the diversity within a church while also bringing about unity within the church?
- Why do some people have apprehensions about the more flamboyant spiritual gifts (such as “speaking in tongues”)? In what ways are these concerns legitimate? How are these concerns exaggerated?

Chapter 9

- What evidence can you cite as proof of Christ’s resurrection?
- Do you think people honestly dispute the resurrection, or do they simply want to avoid dealing with the consequences of it?
- Pretend you are a member of the church in Corinth. After the reading of Paul’s letter (1 Corinthians) at a church service, what are the points that you’re going to remember?

Chapter 10

- God could stop suffering if He wanted to. So, what is His purpose in allowing it in the lives of believers?
- In your experience, do contemporary churches effectively handle discipline issues? Why or why not?
- What is Paul's point when he talks about the "glory" of God?

Chapter 11

- Does Paul let his ego get in the way? Why does he so often discuss his accomplishment and his spiritual condition?
- Give a definition for "living by faith" as Paul uses that phrase.
- Was Paul being hyper-sensitive about his relationship with the Corinthians? Why is he so concerned about maintaining a good relationship with them?

Chapter 12

- Is there a difference when Paul give his personal opinion versus when he says something is from God? If God inspired Paul's writing, should his "opinions" carry the same weight?
- How do you determine what is an appropriate level (amount) for your financial support of ministries?
- Agree or disagree: God doesn't care about the amount of your giving; He is only interested in the attitude of your giving.

Chapter 13

- What is the benefit of having persons of authority in the church? What are the dangers if they abuse their position of leadership?
- What are some of the phony doctrines that are being promoted by contemporary "false" apostles? How can you spot teaching that is off base?
- If you were writing the last chapters of 2 Corinthians, what encouragements would you give to those Christians? What would be your concluding warnings?