

Groups Guide
5/7/23
1 Corinthians
Review

Text: Various passages from 1 Corinthians 1-6, 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Sermon Notes: Today we have a guest speaker joining us named Matt Heard. We will move forward in our 1 Corinthian series after Mother's Day. Today we will do some review in our groups.

Instructions:

This discussion guide serves as a conversation starter for your small group. Every week we will feature an icebreaker question in the **Belong** section as well as give you a recap from the week before. Your main discussion will be centered around the **Believe** section where you will read the key passage and answer suggested questions based on the sermon. Feel free to use some or all of these questions or add your own. Finally, in the **Become** section we will give you a couple of ways to practically apply what we have learned together.

Belong:

Ice Breaker: What was your nickname growing up? Who gave it to you and why? Do people still call you by that name? How does it make you feel?

Believe: (Big Idea/Main Discussion)

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 - This seems to be an underlying problem for the church in Corinth.

What 3 descriptions does Paul use to describe them?

Think back (or look back) to passages we have studied so far. How has this behavior materialized itself in the everyday church life of the believers?

Key passages: 1 Corinthians 1:10-16, 1 Corinthians 3:3-4, 1 Corinthians 5:1-2,6, 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

Paul does not paint a pretty picture of the church. Does this encourage you or discourage you?

Do you think there is hope for any of us?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:4-9 - We looked at these verses back in January. They are good to revisit in light of all that we have learned about the church in Corinth.

What does Paul encourage them with from the beginning?

Notice that before he reproves them, he reminds them of their standing in Christ. If this is true of them, why do you think they are living beneath who they are called to be as believers in Jesus Christ?

When are you tempted to forget your own standing in Christ?

What do you miss out on when you live beneath your calling?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 - If we rightly understand our calling and the message of the Gospel, we would live differently. In the 2nd letter we have to the Corinthians Paul lifts their perspective to what is true and possible for believers.

What motivated Paul above all?

How does this compare with the role Paul took on willingly for the church in Corinth?
See 1 Corinthians 4:14-16

What does it mean to be a new creation?

The picture Paul paints here is that believers are new creations in Christ and ambassadors for Him.

What does an ambassador do?

Who holds ambassadors accountable?

As ambassadors for Christ what is our message to be about?

What does reconciliation look like?

Can you think of a time when you were reconciled to someone? What did it involve? What did you lose? What did you gain?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 in several different translations to gain a full understanding of what Paul is telling the Corinthians.

These same people who were fighting about who was the better leader, lacking maturity, tolerating sexual immorality, and bringing needless lawsuits against each other were being reminded that God made a great exchange with them.

What was it?

Think about your own life. Where do you see God continually pursuing you and pouring His goodness, wisdom, and power into your life through Christ?

What does this mean to you?

Become: In what ways have you tempted to remain immature in your walk with Christ? What is one thing you can do this week to remind yourself of your calling in Christ? Who can you call for support in both of these areas?

Prayer: Thank you for becoming sin for us so that we can become the righteousness of God. We clearly see that our right standing with you is only because Jesus willing became the sacrifice for our sins. Help us Lord to live in light of our calling and may we look and act more like you every day.

Become: (Application)

Prayer: