

1 Corinthians

*A love affair
with problems*



Life Group Notes – Week One

Icebreaker:

- How often do you read your bible? Do you use any study guides, or resources to help you understand the text?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-17

- In Verse 1 Paul introduces himself as an 'apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God' what is an apostle?
- Thinking about some of the issues that the Corinthian church was facing, why might Paul introduce himself this way?
- Read Acts 18:1-17 – Do you think that the Sosthenes mentioned in verse 17 is the same person Paul includes in the start of his letter, why / why not?
- Look again at verse 2, is Paul writing exclusively to the church at Corinth?
- What two attributes does Paul ascribe to the church in verse 2? Why is this so important for the church at Corinth?
- Why do you think the church at Corinth struggling to live up to its calling?
- Paul finishes his greeting in verse 3 by saying 'Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ' why does he include these two words in his greeting?
- In verse 4-9 Paul give's thanks for the churches spiritual journey so far, what are the past, present and future benefits to their faith in Jesus?
- Considering all of the problems that were in the church Paul makes a bold statement in verse 8, how can he have such confidence?
- In verse 10-17 Paul makes his first complaint against the church, why does he put this complaint first? Does he take it personally?
- What impact might the quarrels among them (verse 11) have on the spread of the gospel?
- Read Acts 2:38-39 & 18:27-28, who was the focus of Apollos and Peter's (Cephas) ministry? Would they agree with Paul?
- Paul was in Corinth for a year and half and can only remember baptising Crispus, Gaius and the household of Stephanas? Why so few?
- How would you summarise Paul's opening remarks to the Church at Corinth?