

## Worksheet 13: 1 Corinthians 16:1–24

**Introduction:** In the concluding chapter of 1 Corinthians, Paul wraps up the letter with final instructions regarding an offering for the church in Jerusalem (16:1–4), a word about his own plans and the plans of Timothy and Apollos (16:5–12), closing exhortations (16:13–14), commendations and greetings (16:15–20), and Paul’s farewell (16:21–24).

Some of the topics in this chapter, such as the collection and Paul’s travel plans, will become major issues by the time Paul writes 2 Corinthians. At this point, Paul is brief as he concludes this major letter addressing challenges within the church at Corinth.

### Abbreviated Outline<sup>1</sup> (current passage in bold):

- I. Introduction (1:1-9)
- II. Response to Oral Reports (1:10-6:20)
  - A. A Proper Perspective on Christian Ministers and Ministry (1:10-4:21)
  - B. Immorality in the Church (5:1-13)
  - C. Disputes Between Believers (6:1-11)
  - D. Limitations on Freedom in Christ (6:12-20)
- III. Responses to a Letter from the Corinthians (7:1-16:4)
  - A. Matters related to Sex and Marriage (7:1-40)
  - B. Matters related to Idol Feasts (8:1-11:1)
  - C. Matters related to Christian Worship (11:2-34)
  - D. Matters related to Spiritual Gifts (12:1-14:40)
    - 1. Diversity of Gifts, Unity in the Body (12:1-31)
    - 2. The Supremacy of Love (13:1-13)
    - 3. Prophecy and Tongues (14:1-40)
  - E. Matters related to the Resurrection (15:1-58)
  - F. **Matters related to the Relief Offering (16:1-4)**
- IV. Conclusion (16:5-24)

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<sup>1</sup> The complete outline is available on the Meadowlands Baptist Church website ([www.meadowlandsbaptist.ca](http://www.meadowlandsbaptist.ca)). Adapted from Andreas J. Köstenberger, L. Scott Kellum, and Charles L. Quarles, *The Cradle, The Cross, and The Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament* (Nashville: B & H Academic, 2009), 482–483.

**Interpretation:** *Read through the passage, and then review and make notes under the questions below.*

1. Summarize Paul's instructions in 16:2 regarding the collection. How much does Paul ask the Corinthians to give in this verse?

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2. How does Paul instruct the Corinthians to respond to Timothy (16:10–11)? What does this teach us about the relationship between a church and a faithful minister of the Lord?

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3. Explain the relationship between 16:13 and 16:22, and then consider the relationship between these verses and the rest of the epistle of 1 Corinthians.

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4. Why does Paul commend Stephanus, Fortunatus, and Achaicus to the Corinthian church (16:17–18)?

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**Application:** *Take time to reflect on the implications of this passage for your own life today.*

5. What does this passage mean for your walk with the Lord?

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6. How does this passage challenge the way you think about situations in daily life? What should you do about that?

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**Review:** *Take a few moments to look back through your study of 1 Corinthians.*

7. What are some passages/topics in 1 Corinthians that you found to be particularly challenging?

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8. What are some passages/topics in 1 Corinthians that you found particularly helpful?

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