# Lesson 8: I Corinthians

* WRITER: “Paul, called to be an Apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God.”
* THEME: Cleansing the church from false conceptions. Christian conduct is a top priority. GIVE ALL YOUR ALLEGIANCE TO JESUS
* OUTLINE:

Introduction: The City of Corinth

1. Grace, Christ, Power and Wisdom of God (Ch. 1 & 2)
2. The Temple of God (Ch. 3)
3. The Ministers of God (Ch. 4)
4. The Wickedness in the Church of God (Ch. 5 & 6)
5. The Marriage Union Under God (Ch. 7)
6. Christian Liberties in God (Ch. 8, 9 & 10)
7. Instructions Regarding Church Order from God (Ch. 11)
8. Spiritual Gifts from God (Ch. 12, 13 & 14)
9. Errors Corrected Concerning the Resurrection (Ch. 15)
10. Instructions Concerning Stewardship (Ch. 16)

## Introduction: The City of Corinth

In Paul’s day, Corinth was the leading commercial center of Greece and one of the most important cities in the Roman Empire. No other city held such a commanding geographic position in Ancient Greece

Corinth was a Grecian city noted as a sports center (I Cor. 9:24-27). It was populous (500,000 – 700,000) and wealthy. The first athletes were attracted to the Isthmian games celebrated near the city. Paul addressed athletes in his epistles.

A cosmopolitan place, intellectually alert, materially prosperous, but morally corrupt. The ideal of the Corinthian was the reckless development of the individual. The Corinthian man was a man of pleasure and leisure and proud of his physical strength. The Corinthian’s desire was his law—*if it feels good, do it.* Corinth was a land of idolatry and prostitution. The Greek’s worshipped a multitude of false gods and goddesses which included the false goddess Aphrodite who supposedly embodied love and beauty.

## Grace, Christ, Power and Wisdom of God (1:1-2:16)

KEY VERSES:

1. 1. 1:5 “*enriched by him, in all*”
2. 1:6 “*the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you*”
3. 1:1-2, **9** -11, **30** *Fellowship of Jesus Christ our Lord*

There is no logical process to attain to the things of God without, Spiritual insight, everything is revealed by faith in Jesus Christ.

## The Temple of God (3:1-23)

The Spiritual foundation of every believer’s life is Jesus Christ. I Cor. 3:11; 10:4

## The Ministers of God (4:1-21)

KEY VERSES:

4:**2** “It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful”

4:**20** “For the kingdom of God in not in word but in power”

## The Wickedness in the Church of God (5:1-6:20)

KEY VERSES:

5:**7** “Christ our Passover” (Purge out the old leaven that ye may be a new lump.)

6:**3** “Know ye not that we shall judge angels”

## The Marriage relationship under God (7:1-40)

## Christian liberties in God (8:1-10:33)

10:12 Our liberty is no excuse for slackness. We must take heed because there is a storm coming.

## Instructions regarding Church order 11:1-34

KEY VERSES:

11:**1** “Be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ”

11:**3** “The head of every man is Christ”

## Instructions concerning Spiritual gifts 12:1-14:40

***Rules of Unity***

1. No one ever ruled by the Spirit of God will ever curse Jesus.12:3

2. The gifts of the Holy Ghost are many and varied.12:8-10, 28

3. Each gift is necessary for the proper functioning of the body.12:12-27

4. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are given according to the Holy Spirit’s will. 12:11

5. There are many members of the one body and all should seek the more excellent way. 12:27-31

**The misuse and abuse of God's gifts** are the very reasons the whole world has never been reached for Jesus Christ. I Cor. 1:5-9; I Peter 4:10-11

***Rules of Love***

1. Love excels spiritual gifts. 13:1-3

2. Love out lasts spiritual gifts. 4-12

3. Love is the greatest. 13:13

***Rules of Edification***

1. The chief test of any spiritual manifestation is edification.14:12

2. Prophecy is superior to tongues. But if you have a weakness yielding your tongue to the Lord, how can you yield your mind, heart, soul and spirit properly to the Lord to Prophesy.14:1-12

3. Tongues interpreted edify.14:22, 26-28

4. Improper manifestation can repel people from the church.14:23-28

5. The Spirit of the prophets is subject to the prophets.

14:32

1. The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

1Cor. 14:40—*Let all things be done decently and in order.*

1Cor. 14:36—*What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?*

* Too many believers and churches think that God doesn’t speak specially to people and that God doesn’t give truth and insight that other’s won’t receive but He does, just don’t abuse it.

► LEARN, LOVE, LIVE THE TRUTH

Eph. 4:11—*And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;*

1. Be spiritual and covet the best gifts but don’t abuse them by just thinking that you are more spiritual than others.
2. 1Cor. 2:15—*But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.*

## Errors corrected concerning the resurrection 15:1-58

KEY VERSES:

15:**10** “By the grace of God I am what I am”

15:**26** “The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death”

15:**4** “As we have born the image of the earthly we shall also bear the image of the heavenly”

## Instructions concerning stewardship

(1) Money 16:1-4

(2) Opportunities 5-9

(3) People 10-24

These are the greatest resources that we have in this world and they must not be wasted. Failure to recognize Jesus Christ as Lord caused many disorders to creep into their lives.