

1 Corinthians



**7 Studies in 1 Corinthians
(Part 1)**

Background Reading

By the time the Apostle Paul reached **Corinth** in the autumn of AD 50, it had been a **Roman colony** for over a century. It had formerly been a Greek city with a proud history but had been destroyed by Mummius (Roman general) in 146 BC after conflict with Rome, and lay in ruins for 100 years.

Corinth's town plan was laid in traditional Roman grid-pattern in 44BC after a decision by Julius Caesar to make Corinth a Roman colony. Corinth became the seat of the Roman governor of the **Province of Achaia** and soon had a population larger than Athens. Although founded as a "soldier settlement", with some freedmen coming from Italy; it quickly established itself as an **important centre of culture and trade**. Some of the wealthy families of Greece had been attracted to Corinth and settled in the desirable residential suburb on the slopes of the enormous 1880' (545m) **outcrop known as the Acrocorinth**. These families were among its leading civic benefactors.

Corinth had **two ports** (see map in Appendix 1): **Lechaion** and **Cenchreae**. The archaeological remains of the latter, indicate its prosperity not only as a port but as a satellite city, and at the time when Paul wrote his letter to the Roman Christians there was a church in existence in Cenchreae (Romans 16:1)

Corinth was a **city of rich culture** and its citizens, as in Athens, worshipped many gods and goddesses. Among them, Aphrodite is the best known. When Corinth was a Greek city (i.e. not under Roman rule), the goddess Aphrodite was associated with love and especially temple prostitution. Aphrodite had been thoroughly rehabilitated in the Roman period. She was claimed to be the mother of the imperial family; hence her presence in Roman Corinth as a venerated figure.

Paul founded the church in Corinth in AD 50, after his visit to Athens (Acts 18:1-7). It had its origins in the sermons Paul preached in the Jewish synagogue whose leader was among the early converts (Acts 18:8). Inevitably the church and synagogue clashed. The Jews attempted to institute criminal proceedings against the Christians. This failed when Gallio (proconsul of Achaia) ruled that Christianity sat under the umbrella of Judaism (Acts 18:12-17), giving Christians the same favoured status as Jews.

Paul underwent a period of discouragement in ministry which required the direct intervention of the Lord (Acts 18:9-11). After **18 months' work**, his second longest stay in any city, **he left Corinth**. The **work was continued by Apollos** (1 Cor 3:6) an able Jewish orator from Alexandria and more recently from Ephesus, where his ministry had been greatly enhanced by Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:24-

28). They had been with Paul in Corinth from the founding of the church and had the same profession as Paul, as tent-makers (Acts 18:2-3). It would seem that the Apostle Peter was also in Corinth (1 Cor 1:12).

Before writing 1 Corinthians, **Paul appears to have written a previous letter** warning about associating with immoral people, which was misunderstood by the Corinthians (1 Cor 5:9). By this time Paul had moved to Ephesus when some **reports** from the household of Chloe of **dissent in the church** came to him (1 Cor 1:11). Other people (Stephanas, Fortunatas and Achaicus (1 Cor 16:17) also came bearing a letter seeking Paul's ruling on a number of **complex pastoral matters** affecting the church - **marriage, food offered to idols, spiritual gifts, the collection for the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem, and the request for the return of Apollos** (1 Cor 7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1, 12)

Verbal reports also came, disclosing **problems of: divisiveness, incest, civil litigation, immorality, women prophesying unveiled in church, abuse of the Lord's Supper, and the denial of the resurrection of the body** (Chapters 1 to 6, 12 and 15)

1 Corinthians is the **longest pastoral document in the New Testament and gives important clues as to how difficult pastoral issues should be handled**. It also **provides crucial answers to critical problems which one way or another, still haunt the church today**.

Summary Outline of 1 Corinthians

- 1:1-3 Authors and recipients
- 1:4-9 Thanksgiving
- 1:10—4:21 Christian approach to ministry in the church
- 5:1-6:20 Moral Issues
- 7:1-40 Marriage Problems
- 8:1-11:1 Gospel obligations in a pluralistic world
- 11:2-14:40 Orderly church life
- 15:1-59 The resurrection of the Christian's body
- 16:1-24 Other business

Appendices

Appendix 1 contains a map of Corinth - showing the ports servicing Corinth.

Appendix 2 contains a map of Paul's second missionary journey which includes his time in Corinth.

Appendix 3 contains dates for Paul's missionary journeys and imprisonments to give an overall timeline of Paul's ministry

Appendix 4 contains approximate dates for all of Paul's letters to put his letter to the Corinthians into context

Confidentiality Reminder

Just a reminder that sometimes in our *Growth Groups*, people feel comfortable sharing very personal and sensitive things about their lives. This information ***MUST BE CONFIDENTIAL and NEVER LEAVE THE GROUP.***

Study 1 - United in mind and thought - 1 Corinthians 1:1-17

(Sermon on 2-Feb-2020)

Before we begin: Read Acts 18:1-17 to understand the background of the formation of the church in Corinth

1. Who were Paul's companions in this part of his missionary journey? (Acts 18:1-5)

2. What problem did Paul encounter in the synagogue and how did he react? (Acts 18:5-6)

3. What encouragement did Paul receive in Acts 18:7-8?

4. What encouragement did Paul receive in Acts 18:9-10? How do we know that helped Paul (cf. Acts 18:11)?

5. What problem did Paul encounter with the Jews in Acts 18:11-17? How was it resolved?

Discuss: Is it okay to be proud? Yes/No/Maybe? What is it okay to be proud of?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

6. Who is the author of the letter and on whose authority? (verse 1)

7. Who are the recipients of the letter and how are they described? (verse 2)

8. What greeting does Paul give in verse 3? Is that a familiar greeting? (cf. Romans 1:7; Ephesians 1:2; 1 Timothy 1:2; and Titus 1:4)

Read 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

9. Typical of the way that Paul introduces his letters, Paul thanks God for his readers. Make a list of the things about the Corinthians, Paul thanks God for. Try to put them in your own words:

V4

V5

V6-7

10. From Paul's thank you prayer, it sounds like things are going pretty well at Corinth. How would the prayer like this make the Corinthians feel?

11. However, if we do a quick sneak preview, it seems the Corinthians are managing to abuse almost all the good things God has given them. Have a look at how Paul addresses some issues later in his letter. What are the Corinthians doing with the things God has given them?
 Compare 1 Cor 1:4-5 with 1 Cor 12:28-13:2

Compare 1 Cor 1:7-8 with 1 Cor 5:1-2; 6:12-13

12. What promises does Paul give in verse 8 and 9? Is that encouraging?

After the greeting and thanks, Paul doesn't waste any time in getting to his point.

Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

13. What does Paul want the Corinthians to do in verse 10?

14. What problem in the church is Paul dealing with?

15. What is causing the divisions and fights?

16. Paul gives a number of reasons why the Corinthians' attitude is silly. What are they in verse 13?

17. Why is Paul so anxious to play down his role in baptizing anyone?

18. What does Paul want the Corinthians (and us) to focus on?

What's the **BIG IDEA** of 1 Corinthians 1:1-17?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?



How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray for our church family to be perfectly united in mind and thought; and to focus on the *Gospel* of our Lord Jesus, who died for us.

Study 2 – Christ Crucified is God's Power & Wisdom – 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5
(Sermon on 9-Feb-2020)

Before we begin: What does the Cross of Jesus mean to you?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

1. In verse 18 we see that different people have a different understanding of the message of the Cross.
 - a. How do 'those who are perishing' understand the cross?
 - b. Why would they see it that way?
 - c. How do 'those (we) who are being saved' understand the cross?
 - d. Why do they (we) see it that way?

2. In verse 19, Paul quotes from the Old Testament prophecy of Isaiah where God promised to 'destroy the wisdom of the wise' (cf. Isaiah 29:14). How did God do this? Consider verses 1 Cor 1:19-21 when answering.

3. **Read verses 22-24** and complete the table below to identify what Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) would naturally look for to support a religious proposition and how each group naturally understands the cross

Group of People	What is Required for Belief	What they think of the Cross	What 'the called' within each group think of the cross
Jews			
Greeks/Gentiles			

4. **Ponder:** The message about Jesus' death on the cross divides people - not along the old Jew-Gentile lines - but between those who are 'called' by God and those who are not; and between those who are 'being saved' and those who are 'perishing'. The central message of Christianity is that there is nothing we can do to earn God's favour - however clever or good we think we are. The only way we can be reconciled to God is to follow a man who hung on a cross 2000 years ago.

What makes this message seem ridiculous or silly in 2020?

5. What do you think Paul means in verse 25?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

6. What kind of background to most of the Corinthians come from?

7. What kind of people does God typically save? Why?

8. What one thing can the Corinthians boast about?

Think it through...

9. What things does our society value in people?

10. How does the message of the cross 'nullify' these things?

11. Why is boasting so inappropriate for Christians?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

12. Paul reminds the Corinthians of how they first came to believe through his message. He says, he came to them in fear and trembling. Do you think this was deliberate? Why? Why not? (cf. Proverbs 9:10; Acts 18:1-11)

13. Why did Paul avoid the use of eloquence and superior wisdom?

14. What do you think a 'demonstration of the Spirit's power' (v4) looked like?

15. What should our faith rest on?

16. **Ponder:** How would you feel if Paul turned up in all his fear and weakness, without any persuasive words, to preach at our church?

17. How can our church imitate Paul in our style of ministry?

What's the BIG IDEA of 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?



How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray for our church family to boast in the Lord only.

Study 3 – God's Wisdom Revealed by the Spirit – 1 Corinthians 2:6-16
(Sermon on 16-Feb-2020)

Before we begin: Define wisdom?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-9

1. In verse 6 Paul admits that there is a sense in which he was teaching wise things during his time in Corinth. What kind of wisdom was Paul and the others on about in verses 6 to 9?

2. Who does not understand this wisdom in verse 8? How can Paul say this?

3. Why is this surprising?

4. According to verse 9, what is this wisdom all about? (cf. Proverbs 1:7; 9:10; Isaiah 64:4; 65:17)

5. **Discuss:** In a culture of philosophy (love of wisdom) how is Greek philosophy different to the wisdom of God? [*sounds like an essay question but it's not!*]

Read 1 Corinthians 2:10-16

6. How can people find out God's wisdom?

7. How is Paul able to teach *God's wisdom* in verses 12 and 13?

8. What does the expression '*explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words*' mean?

9. What contrast does Paul make in verses 14 and 15? (cf. John 14:17; 1 Cor 1:18; 1 Cor 3:1; Gal 6:1)

10. Thinking back to chapter 1, you might remember the *Corinthians* have been boasting about their connection to certain leaders (Paul, Apollos, Cephas). How does Paul's argument in chapter 2 highlight that the *Corinthians* boasting is foolish?

11. How is chapter 2:6-16 a dig at the *Corinthian* culture?

12. What qualities should we be looking for in *Christian leaders/teachers*?

13. What argument does Paul make about *God's wisdom* in verse 16? (cf. Isaiah 40:13; Romans 11:34)

14. What mindset do we need to have in verse 16? (cf. John 15:15; Philip 2:5-8)

What's the **BIG IDEA** of 1 Corinthians 2:6-16?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?



How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray for Godly wisdom through the Holy Spirit and that our mindset would become more like the Lord Jesus each day.

Study 4 - Team Work - 1 Corinthians 3:1-23

(Sermon on 23-Feb-2020)

Self-assessment: Are you a team player or an individualist?

The Big Picture

It's worthwhile following Paul's logic in his letter. Have a look back at **1 Corinthians 1:11-12**. What's the problem in the Corinthian Church?

In the **1st chapter**, we learn that although the Corinthians are a bunch of gifted people, their **church is bitterly divided**. The Corinthians have formed fan-clubs around different leaders and so Paul has spent the **first two chapters** of his letter addressing **two issues underlying this behaviour**. He's shown **how wrong boasting is for Christians** and he's shown how **all Christians have access to God's wisdom**, regardless of how clever their leaders are.

Now in chapter 3, he zeros in on the Corinthians specific behaviour.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-4

1. How does Paul describe the Corinthians? What analogies does he use?
2. How would you feel being described this way?
3. What are the Corinthians lacking? (cf. 1 Cor 2:10)

If the Corinthians were really mature and spiritual, they would realize that Christians only learn about God because the Holy Spirit enlightens them. It doesn't matter how brilliant or eloquent their favourite leader seems. Everyone is in the same situation when it comes to understanding God. The Corinthians

boasting and fighting over particular leaders clearly confirms their immaturity. Paul goes on to explain the basics of Christian leadership again.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

4. What metaphor does Paul use to describe the role of Christian leaders?

5. How does Acts 18:24-28 help to see why Apollos had such an active fan club in Corinth?

6. Fill in the following table to see who is responsible for what:

	Paul	Apollos	God
Task			
Status			
Purpose			

7. How are Paul and Apollos united?

8. According to verse 7, who should get the honour and fan mail, when a church is growing?

Paul now changes metaphors from farming to a construction site...

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

9. What is the principle of verse 10?

10. What's the first principle of church building in verse 11?
11. In verses 12 to 15, Paul list a variety of different building materials. The materials can be divided into two groups. What are they?
- 1.
 - 2.
12. It seems it is possible to build different sorts of structures upon the solid foundation of Jesus, ranging from poor quality to top quality. From what we've learnt in the studies so far, list the sort of Christian activities that would fit into the two different groups (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:17; 2:2)
- 1.
 - 2.
13. What are the implications of verse 14 and 15?
14. What metaphor does Paul use to describe the Corinthian church¹ in verses 16 to 17?
15. How does this highlight the seriousness of destroying the church?
16. How are the Corinthians in a dangerous situation at this point?

¹ For the purposes of our studies: by church we don't mean the building but the people gathered together in the church

17. What kind of divisive activity should we avoid?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-23

18. How does someone 'become a fool to become wise' in verse 18?

19. What Old Testament passages does Paul quote in verses 19 and 20; and what comparison is being made?

20. What is the logic of verses 21 to 23?

21. Why is boasting in human leaders so ridiculous in view of what we have in Christ?

22. In what sense are 'all things ours' in verses 21 and 22?

23. Have you become foolish in the sense that Paul talks about here? Why? Why not?

What's the BIG IDEA of 1 Corinthians 3:1-23?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?



How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray that we would not trust in human wisdom ahead of God's wisdom. Pray for unity and teamwork in our church family.

Study 5 - True Apostleship & Paul's concern - 1 Corinthians 4:1-21
(Sermon on 15-Mar-2020)

As we've seen, the Corinthians' arrogance had been expressing itself in boasting and fighting about their favourite leaders. Paul has been getting increasingly passionate as he persuades them to give up their pride, and in chapter 4, he reaches the climax of his argument.

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

1. This section summarizes Paul's teaching regarding godly leaders. Leaders are _____; they are entrusted with _____ and it is required that they are _____.
2. Who is the ultimate judge on how successful Paul is? What does He judge?
3. When is everyone going to know about this judgement?
4. In what sense should Christian leaders not be worried about people's judgement of them? Why?
5. Should Christian leaders ignore every criticism or does Paul mean something else?

Read 1 Corinthians 4:6-13

6. Verse 6 reminds us again where the Corinthians were going wrong; what are they doing?

7. In what sense are the Corinthians 'not to go beyond what is written' (see 1 Cor 1:31)

8. What is the 'tone' of this section; especially verses 8 to 13?

9. Compare the Corinthians with Paul and the Apostles in verses 8 to 13. Write a list of what the Corinthians have and what Paul and the Apostles have

10. Do you think Paul really thought the Corinthians had everything they needed? Why/Why not? (cf. 1 Cor 3:1-4)

11. What is Paul's point in this section (1 Cor 4:6-13)?

12. Thinking back to the message of 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; whose lives (the Corinthians or Paul and the Apostles) fit best to this central message?

13. Looking at their resume (CV), how would Paul and the Apostles go if they applied for a job at our church?

Read 1 Corinthians 4:14-21

14. What is Paul's special relationship with the Corinthians? Why?

15. How does Paul want the Corinthians to respond to him?

16. Why will Paul send Timothy?

17. Paul closes this section of his letter with a warning. Who does he warn and what about?

18. What does Paul mean when he says 'for the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power'? (Hint: has the idea of talk (words) and power come up anywhere else in 1 Corinthians so far?)

Think it through:

19. What things should we value in Christian leaders?

20. Why?

21. How can we imitate Paul?

22. What would it do for our church if we did all imitate Paul? Give some possible outcomes.

What's the BIG IDEA of 1 Corinthians 4:1-21?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?

➔ How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray that we would be imitators of Paul, as he imitates Christ.

Study 6 – A Case of Incest – 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

(Sermon on 22-Mar-2020)

There's no doubt the Corinthians were a proud bunch. As we saw in chapter 4, they think when it comes to Christianity, they are kings and millionaires. But according to Paul, their arrogance is misplaced. In the first 4 chapters of his letter, Paul has been persuading them that the Christian message about the death of Jesus isn't impressive by worldly standards. A group of people who've been saved by a saviour nailed to a cross, have been saved by the weakest looking most foolish sounding message you'll ever come across (so the world thinks). For anyone accepting and relying on this message, pride and arrogance are completely out of place, Paul says.

But, it's not just that pride and arrogance are wrong in themselves. Pride is breeding a whole lot of other problems in the church at Corinth, such as immorality and legal battles. In chapters 5 to 7, Paul goes on to address these problems...

Before we begin: How would you define incest?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-5

1. What are the Corinthians proud of in verses 1 to 2? (cf. Lev 18:8; Deut 22:30; 27:20)

2. How should they have been feeling about this situation?

3. What should the Corinthians do to solve this problem?

4. What is the aim of handing someone over to Satan?

5. What kind of situations would it be appropriate to 'hand someone over to Satan' today?

6. How would you go about it?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

7. What picture does Paul use to describe the effect of boasting?

8. How does the Corinthians boasting make the situation of immorality even worse?

9. What does Paul say is the opposite of their boasting? And what's the Festival he's talking about in verse 8?

10. How would an attitude of sincerity and truth solve the problem of immorality in the Corinthian church?

11. Is there any kind of immorality Christians are proud of today?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

It's almost as if verses 6 to 8 are an aside on the problems of posting. In verse 9, Paul gets back to the main problem - dealing with immorality

8. What had Paul instructed the Corinthians in his previous letter (which seems to have been lost to us)?

9. How had they misunderstood him?

10. What kind of people does Paul want the Corinthians not to associate with?

11. How does this instruction make you feel?

12. How should we 'purge the evil person from among us today'?

13. What implications does Paul's teachings have for the way we interact with people who aren't Christians?

A Happy Ending

Paul's instructions about dealing with immorality might sound harsh, but it seems that there might be a happy ending in this particular case. In Paul's next letter to the Corinthians he talks about forgiving and reaffirming their love for someone who had caused them great pain (see 2 Cor 2:5-11)

If (???) this is the same person referred to in 1 Cor 5, then it would seem the process of breaking off 'fellowship' with the immoral person, had caused the person to stop what he was doing and start following Christ again. What do you think?

What's the **BIG IDEA** of 1 Corinthians 5:1-13?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?

➔ How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray that we would be diligent in how we deal with immorality in the church - being full of sincerity, love and truth.

Study 7 - Courting Trouble - 1 Corinthians 6:1-20

(Sermon on 29-Mar-2020)

One of the most common reasons people give for dismissing Christianity is "*Oh they're always fighting amongst themselves*". This may not be particularly fair, but it shows how damaging public brawling is for Christians.

1. Do you know of any situations where people who were publicly known to be Christians ended up in court against each other?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

2. From what you know of the Corinthians, so far, does it surprise you they ended up in court? Why/Why not?
3. Does Paul expect the Corinthians to not have grievances with one another?
4. What do the expressions "the Lord's people will judge the world" (verse 2) and "we will judge angels" (verse 3) mean?
5. How should grievances between the Corinthians be resolved?
6. What's the problem with lawsuits between believers? (verse 6)
7. Put Paul's argument in your own words.

8. What would be better than having lawsuits against one another?

Paul is horrified that the Corinthians would take each other to court. Surely, he says, there's someone among you who is smart enough to sort out your problems. Surely you don't have to make Christ's church a laughing stock by having public legal brawls, If you've got disputes with each other keep it in house!

9. What makes Paul's instructions hard for us to follow today?

10. How can we do what Paul is saying?

As embarrassing and unhelpful as lawsuits are, they're only a symptom of the real problem. Paul goes on to address this problem in the next few verses...

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

11. What underlying problem is leading to the lawsuits?

12. What is Paul's warning for the quarrelsome Corinthians?

13. How should verse 11 make the Corinthians think twice before running off to court?

14. **Discuss** in your group: How should Christians handle disagreements? (cf. Matthew 18:15-20)

In 1 Corinthians 6:12, Paul picks up on the first of a number of slogans that the Christians at Corinth were using to explain what it meant to be a Christian. We'll be seeing more of these slogans as we go through 1 Corinthians, and unfortunately, they're particularly unhelpful in getting the Corinthians to understand what God wants.

15. What do you think of the phrase '*I have the right to do anything*'? Is this right or wrong for a Christian and why?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

16. By the end of the passage it's clear that Paul is dealing with the problem of sexual immorality. What kind of sexual standards would be encouraged by the slogan 'I have the right to do anything'?

17. How does Paul correct this slogan? Is it surprising that he doesn't come straight out and say the slogan is **WRONG**?

18. How does Paul's correction apply in the area of sex?

19. There is another slogan in verse 13; what does this slogan mean? Can you put it in your own words?

20: **Ponder:** The Corinthians have worked out that what you put in your stomach doesn't matter at all to God. This is right as far as it goes, the problem is they've started to think that nothing they do with their bodies matters to God, only what they do with their 'spirits'. How would the idea of stomach and food not mattering to God get applied to the area of sexual practice?

20. How does Paul respond to this slogan at the end of verse 13? (cf. Rom 12:1)
21. Looking at verses 14 and 15, why are bodies important?
22. Discuss in your group, why sexual immorality is a particularly damaging sin?
23. Looking at the passage, do you think the problem of sexual immorality has changed since Paul's time?
24. What is Paul's plan for dealing with sexual immorality in verse 18?
25. Verses 19 and 20, give two more reasons why what we do with our bodies is so important. What are they?
26. What is Paul's overall instruction on how to treat our bodies?

What's the **BIG IDEA** of 1 Corinthians 6:1-20?



Give a **light globe** moment you experienced in this passage?

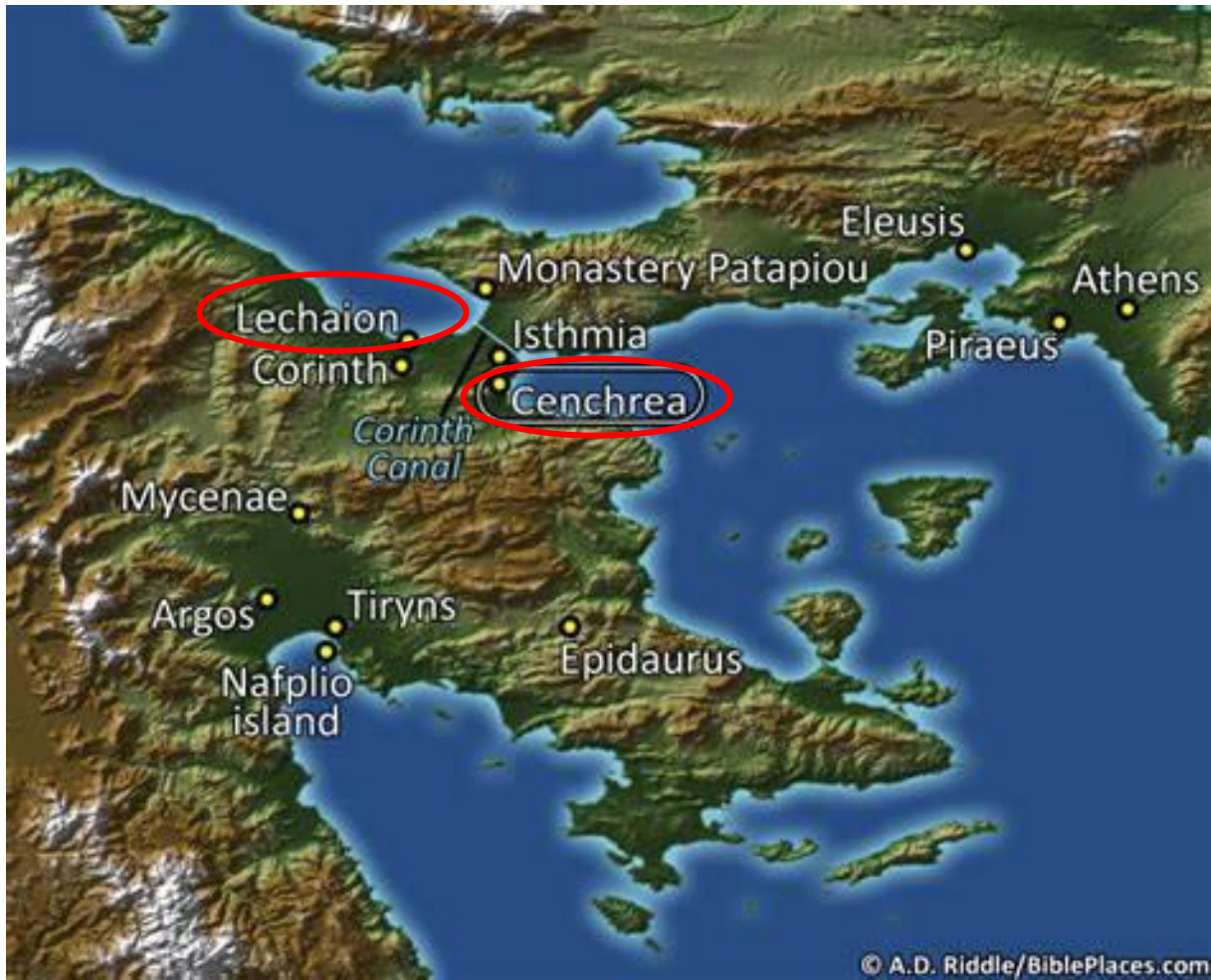


How does this passage **apply to your life**?

Share the verse that had a special meaning to you in this study?

Finish in prayer: Pray that we would deal with conflicts in our church with love and godly wisdom. Pray we would honour God with our bodies.

Appendix 1 - Map of Corinth



Appendix 2 - Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey



Appendix 3

Paul's Journeys and Imprisonments (approximate dates)

Journey/Imprisonment	Date
Paul at Damascus	37-40 AD
First Journey (Acts 13:4-14:28)	45-48 AD
Second Journey (Acts 15:26-18:22)	49-52 AD
Third Journey (Acts 18:23-21:16)	53-57 AD
Imprisonment in Caesarea	58-60 AD
Voyage to Rome	60-61 AD
Imprisonment in Rome	61-63 AD
Post-Imprisonment Journeys	63-67 AD

Appendix 4

Approximate Dates of Paul's Letters

Letter	Date
1 Thessalonians	52 AD
2 Thessalonians	52 AD
Galatians	55-57 AD
1 Corinthians	57 AD
2 Corinthians	57 AD
Romans	57-58AD
Ephesians	62 AD
Philippians	62 AD
Colossians	62 AD
Philemon	63 AD
Titus	64-65 AD
1 Timothy	64-65 AD
2 Timothy	66-67 AD

Studies prepared by Paul O'Rourke
January 2020

Resources:

- The MacArthur Study Bible
- New Bible Commentary (Carson, France, Moyter & Wenham)
- 1 Corinthians (Geoffrey B. Wilson)
- Conflict & Community in Corinth - A socio-rhetorical commentary on 1 Corinthians 1 & 2 (Ben Witherington III)
- 1 Corinthians - Understanding the Bible Commentary Series (Marion L. Soards)
- The First Epistle to the Corinthians - The New International Commentary on the New Testament (F.W. Grosheide)

Notes/Prayer Points