



# 1 CORINTHIANS



Practical, Easy-To-Use Devotionals Made for Families.

*1 & 2 Corinthians*



# 1 CORINTHIANS

Practical, Easy-To-Use Devotionals Made for Families.



# BOOK SUMMARY

..... **1 CORINTHIANS**

# 1 CORINTHIANS



## OVERVIEW

First Corinthians is a letter from the apostle Paul to the people of the church in Corinth (Greece) in or around A.D. 49-52. These were people he knew well! He had lived and served among them for about a year and a half. During that time, God called many people to faith in Jesus, and a church was formed. Paul worked affectionately with the Corinthians like a father with his children. He taught them everything he could about God's ways. Eventually, though, he headed off to the next city to spread the good news about Jesus.

Probably a year and a half later, Paul began to get reports that things weren't going so well in Corinth. The church members were fighting with each other and putting each other down. They were doing things they used to do in their pre-Christian lives when they still worshipped idols.

Paul sat down to write. What we call 1 Corinthians is actually his second letter to them (there may have even been more!) Like a good father, he tried to show them the things they were doing or thinking that were hurtful or wrong. Then he helped them see how the gospel (the good news about Jesus) affected every area in which they were struggling. Sometimes *what they were saying they believed* and *what they were doing with their lives* didn't match.

God has made us new from the inside out, so everything we do matters! Paul wanted them to be restored to the full goodness of what it means to belong to Christ. It was important for them and for the sake of those outside the church who were watching.



# 1 CORINTHIANS



## SETTING

As you think about Corinth, picture a big, bustling city. It was kind of like a New York or Los Angeles in its day. The city was wealthy and fancy and full of important temples to other gods (idols).

Devotion to these false gods was a big part of what made the city's culture (and its money). It was common to go to the market and find meat that had been part of a temple sacrifice! Yikes!

In his letter, Paul reminded the Corinthian Christians that those "gods" weren't real; they were just statues. There's only one true God! But the people in the city still believed in and served the false gods! The sorts of things they did in their service were often really bad. Many of the Corinthian Christians had been a part of those things before they met Jesus.





# 1 CORINTHIANS



## THEMES

Paul talks to his friends about two big categories in their lives: their compromises with evil (and worshipping idols) and the sin that crept into their relationships with others in God's family (the church).

Here are some of the things you'll hear about in this letter:

1. Unity--God REALLY wants His family to be known for its love—not for bickering about who's the most important!
2. Considering others' needs—even when it means losing some of our privileges. In this case, Paul was talking about eating meat that had been sacrificed to idols (false gods). You'll learn more about that as you read 1 Corinthians!
3. Showing respect for others and keeping order in worship-- Paul reminded them to think of each other and take turns when sharing a message from God.
4. Not letting evil grow in the church. Sin is like a contagious sickness or like yeast in bread dough—it tends to spread, and it has to be removed.
5. The resurrection—Paul reminded them to hold tightly to the truth that one day we really are going to be raised from the dead just like Jesus! That's our hope and our anchor in life's worst storms!

### Highlights!

When you get to Chapter 13, you might recognize it! It's one of the most famous parts of the whole Bible! In it, Paul talks to his friends about what real love looks like. He placed it right after a conversation about how they all belong to each other like parts of a body (chapter 12). God wants His family to be known for its love!

## HOW TO USE

Even though God inspired Paul to write these words to the Corinthians, they're for us, too! We also need reminders to think of others in God's family first—to be peaceful and kind and to show honor to each other.

Also, like the Corinthians, we live in a culture that embraces many different religions or gods. Most people might not have statues they worship, but we're all tempted to serve something other than God: money, power, achievement, being the best, being popular, etc.

1 Corinthians reminds us that God has made us holy, and our actions should match what He's made us to be.

1 Corinthians 15 shows us our real hope—Jesus died so that we could LIVE forever with Him. If we belong to the Lord, then He'll raise us to be with Him one day! We'll have new bodies! We'll enjoy eating, walking, talking, playing, loving others, and worshipping Jesus in the new Heavens and the new Earth. Death will be a thing of the past forever! That was the hope for the Corinthians, and it's our hope, too! Knowing our future hope shapes how we live now. It gives us courage, strength, and endurance to obey God when it's hard!



# 1 CORINTHIANS



## WHO IS PAUL?

Paul is a man that God used to start many churches you'll read about in the New Testament. In fact, thirteen of the New Testament books are letters that Paul wrote (often along with his co-workers) to those churches. He wrote words of encouragement, instruction, correction, and comfort for times when they suffered.

Paul was probably just a few years younger than Jesus. He grew up in a big city called Tarsus (in modern-day Turkey). It was one of the intellectual hot spots of its day. Paul's family was Jewish, so he learned the Scriptures (at that time, the Old Testament) from a very young age. He could likely recite parts of it by the time he was five!

Paul was very serious about the traditions of Judaism (that's another word for the Jewish religion). So, he went through training with one of the top rabbis of his day: Gamaliel. (In Acts 5, you can read the story of how God used Gamaliel's influential wisdom to rescue some of the disciples from death!) Paul likely moved to Jerusalem when he was only 13 to study with his famous teacher.

Paul rose through the ranks really quickly. He tells us in Philippians 3, Acts 22, and Galatians 1 that he was advancing faster than his classmates because of his zeal. He became a Pharisee like his teacher. The Pharisees were a special group within Judaism that emphasized religious purity and keeping the Law (the first five books of the Old Testament).

It's very possible that Paul was in Jerusalem

when Jesus was tried and crucified, and it's very likely that he agreed (at that time) with what happened. How do we know? 1) Paul was a Pharisee, and most of the Pharisees (mistakenly) felt that Jesus wasn't keeping the laws of Judaism! They thought He was leading the people astray. It seems that what the Pharisees were actually bothered by was losing control. Many people were believing in Jesus and not listening to them anymore! Jesus was a threat to their power. 2) When the church began to meet after Jesus' resurrection, there's a sad story (in Acts 7) about a man named Stephen who was killed by the same Jewish supreme court that had sentenced Jesus to die. Who does it say stood by and held their coats so they could kill Stephen? A young man named "Saul." Saul was Paul's Hebrew name. Paul was his Greek/Roman name. It was common in those days for people to have both. Acts 8:1 tells us Saul approved of Stephen's death.

After Stephen's death, Paul began to hunt down the Christians to try to stop them from worshipping Jesus—even if that meant doing them physical harm. It seems he thought he was serving God. But as he was on his way to Damascus to find the Christians there, Jesus stopped Paul dead in his tracks! (Acts 9). Jesus blinded Paul for a time with a bright light and asked him why he was persecuting Him (harming and harassing Him for spiritual reasons). In a flash, Paul understood that Jesus really is God! He also realized that the Church is God's family and that when they hurt, He hurts!





## WHO IS PAUL?

As the story goes on, we find out that God has chosen Paul to carry the message of Jesus, the true God, to the Gentiles (those who aren't Jews). The kind of Judaism that Paul had grown up with didn't approve of associating with Gentiles. So, it was quite a surprise to EVERYBODY when Paul began to follow Christ (and eventually serve the Gentiles). Many didn't believe his faith was real. They were scared of him. But within days, God was using Paul's knowledge of the Old Testament to persuade others of the truth about Jesus in the Scriptures!

God took all the parts of Paul's background: his training in the Old Testament Law, his Roman citizenship (which came with privileges and protections he would need along the way), the zeal (enthusiasm) of his heart, and even his training as a tent-maker to advance the gospel (the good news about Jesus). From then on, Paul served, loved, and lived for Jesus.

Paul's life was often full of danger and suffering (like being shipwrecked, beaten, stoned, thrown in prison, insulted, and chased out of town)—but it was also full of the glory and privilege of seeing God work! God used Paul to perform miracles like healing people and even raising someone from the dead! It was God's power that did these amazing things, but Paul got a front-row seat!

God used him to parent many people spiritually. He told them about God's love, coached them in their new faith, wrote them letters with important encouragement and instruction, and trained and appointed many of the church's early leaders! God gave Paul both boldness and kindness. He was brave, focused on others and his God-given task, and a beloved friend to many. You can read about

some of the scenes of Paul's life in the book of Acts. His story is intertwined with the story of the Church and the gospel.

How did Paul die? Though the New Testament doesn't tell us exactly, it seems that Paul was executed in Rome shortly after he wrote 2 Timothy. He was likely in his early 60's. He was probably about 30 when Jesus stopped him on the road to Damascus and called him to faith. So, Paul walked with Jesus in this life for almost 30 years.

What did Paul look like? We don't really know, but he's traditionally portrayed as a little bit short, balding, bow-legged, and with a bit of a crooked or long nose.

One thing is for sure! God used this man to do mighty things, and we'll get to meet him one day in Jesus' presence!







# READING PLAN

..... **1 CORINTHIANS**

# 1 CORINTHIANS



## FAMILY READING PLAN

our family name

### ○ Chapter 1

A Call To Unity And God's Wisdom Compared With Man's Wisdom

### ○ Chapter 2

Only The Holy Spirit Can Give Real Spiritual Wisdom

### ○ Chapter 3

How Leaders Stand Before God And Words About Worldliness

### ○ Chapter 4

The Importance Of Following Leaders Who Really Follow Christ

**An important note for parents:** chapters 5-7 contain instructions regarding sexual ethics. You will want to read those sections ahead of time so that you can plan, particularly if your children are young. The entries below tread very lightly on the subject.

### ○ Chapter 5

Consequences For Sin (So That Mercy Can Come After)

### ○ Chapter 6

Living Differently Because Of Our Connection With God

### ○ Chapter 7

Instructions (And Advice) For Married And Unmarried People

### ○ Chapter 8

Thinking Of Others First

### ○ Chapter 9

Paul: Setting An Example For Self-Giving Service Toward Others

### ○ Chapter 10

The Lessons Of History For The Present Life Of Faith

### ○ Chapter 11

Outward Signs Of Spiritual Realities

### ○ Chapter 12

How God's Family (The Church) Is Like A Body With Many Parts

### ○ Chapter 13

What Love Looks Like

### ○ Chapter 14

Respecting Each Other As The Church Gathers For Worship

### ○ Chapter 15

Resurrection: The Anchor Of Our Hope

### ○ Chapter 16

Closing Greetings And Taking Up A Collection For Others





# FAMILY JOURNALS

..... 1 CORINTHIANS

A Call To Unity And God's Wisdom Compared With Man's Wisdom

### SUMMARY *(write or draw)*

### WHAT STOOD OUT

### FAV WORDS

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### WORTH A NOTE

(vs. 10-17) After Paul had greeted his friends and given thanks (those were common parts of ancient letters), what's the very first thing out of his mouth (v10)? When you've got something on your mind, it tends to come tumbling out! What was the problem Paul wanted to address? Take a minute to write what you see here. God wants His family to be tight-knit, peaceful, loving and aiming at the same goal. When we bicker and put each other down, we tear the fabric of God's family. Is there anything you need to admit to God about the way you've treated another believer?

### HIGHLIGHT

(vs. 18-25) Some people say that God's truths are too ridiculous ("foolish") to believe. For example, some say that because they can't see God, He can't be real or that there can't only be ONE way to heaven. V25 is the key to understanding this section. Read it first, and then read 18-25. What's the main point? (Extra insight! In vs. 26-31, "boasting" is about where we find our strength and security!)

### A place for thoughts *(write or draw)*

### This story inspired me to...



Only The Holy Spirit Can Give Real Spiritual Wisdom

SUMMARY (write or draw)

Large empty rectangular box for writing or drawing a summary.

WHAT STOOD OUT

Three circles for notes: the first and third are dotted lines, the middle one is a solid line.

FAV WORDS

Decorative banner with speech bubble icons and the text 'FAV WORDS' in the center.

A place for thoughts (write or draw)

This story inspired me to...

HISTORY

(vs. 1-8) "Eloquence or human wisdom" (v1) refers to the impressive ways that famous Greek speakers (orators) had learned to communicate to sway their audiences. It was called "rhetoric." Even though Paul probably had training, he didn't rely on dazzling performances to convince people. It was the power of the Holy Spirit (God Himself) revealing the truth to people's hearts as they heard the story of Jesus' death, resurrection (being raised from the dead), and His love for them. Only God can open someone's heart to believe.

RESPONSE

(vs. 9-16) We hear a lot about the Holy Spirit in these verses! First, make a list under "A place for thoughts" of what you learn about Him, what He does for us, how life with Him is different, and what we have (v16) because of His help. Second, which items on the list you wrote are most special to you? Why?



How Leaders Stand Before God And Words About Worldliness

**SUMMARY** *(write or draw)*

**WORTH A NOTE**

“Worldly” life is the opposite of living “by the Spirit.” Worldliness means carrying out the fallen world’s sinful patterns (lying, greed, bickering, pride, hatefulness, spiritual ignorance, rebellion against God, etc.) When we come to know God, He gives us a new life alongside, and instead of our old one—He makes us citizens of heaven even while we’re still citizens of earth. Slowly, we grow to look more and more like true people of heaven. We start to live by its laws even though we’re physically on earth. We aren’t so captive to sin (worldliness) anymore. The Corinthians, though, were acting as if the Spirit had never made them new!

**A place for thoughts**  
*(write or draw)*

**WHAT STOOD OUT**

**This story inspired me to...**

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**HIGHLIGHT**

Remember that Paul is talking to his friends about their problem with criticizing some leaders/teachers and bragging about following others. It was creating division. Here he tells them how to think about the place of teachers in the work of God. What do you see?



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The Importance Of Following Leaders Who Really Follow Christ

SUMMARY (write or draw)

WHAT STOOD OUT

FAV WORDS

Four horizontal dotted lines for writing favorite words.

WORTH A NOTE

(vs. 1-5) Chapter four finishes out Paul's thought from chapter three. He wants his friends to know how to view servants of God. Paul had been entrusted with something precious (v1). What was it? Who would judge Paul's care of it? (vs. 2-5). ALL of us will stand before the throne of God and give an answer for our lives. Jesus' sacrifice saves us, but God will also look over our lives on earth and reward us if we've loved, honored, and served Him. Everything we do matters to Him!

HIGHLIGHT

(vs. 6-21) Paul gets a little sarcastic here (vs. 8-13) to help point out the ways the Corinthians think about themselves. This passage seems to say that the Corinthians thought they were wiser and better than Paul—perhaps because of their new teachers with their powerful rhetoric (teaching style). What is Paul's heart toward his friends, and what does he want them to do? (vs. 14-16) We grow to be like those we look up to. Paul wants them to have the right kind of role model: one who looks up to Jesus.

A place for thoughts (write or draw)

This story inspired me to...



Consequences For Sin (So That Mercy Can Come After)

An important note for parents:

Chapters 5-7 contain instructions regarding sexual ethics. You will want to read those sections ahead of time so that you can plan, particularly if your children are young. The entries below tread very lightly on the subject.

SUMMARY (write or draw)

WORTH A NOTE

Now we come to a very hard, sad part of the letter. It's about family members who were treating each other inappropriately. Their behavior showed disrespect (and a lack of love) for God, each other, other members of their family, and even the church. The worst part was that the church wasn't doing anything to stop it! In fact, they were proud of it! This meant there was a real danger that others might follow this path, too (vs 6-13). Paul compares their sin to yeast that spreads through the dough. Drastic measures had to be taken. - -> to be continued in the Highlight Box.

A place for thoughts

(write or draw)

This story inspired me to...

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WHAT STOOD OUT

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HIGHLIGHT

It's a sign of love when a parent disciplines a child who's doing harmful things. It means that she cares about her child's character (who he's growing up to be). Consequences are part of love. That's what's going on in this chapter. God loves his people so much that He can't let them continue on this hurtful path. The goal is that the man who is sinning would turn back and be restored. The Lord wants him to be saved in the end, so he gives him heavy consequences now! (The "destruction of the flesh" (v5) is most likely talking about the man stopping his evil actions and desires. It could also mean that God is going to allow him to suffer physical consequences.)



Living Differently Because Of Our Connection With God

SUMMARY (write or draw)

Large empty rectangular box for writing or drawing a summary.

WHAT STOOD OUT

Three circles: the first and third are dotted lines, the middle one is a solid line.

FAV WORDS

A horizontal bar with speech bubble icons at each end and a central box for writing favorite words.

A place for thoughts (write or draw)

This story inspired me to...

WORTH A NOTE

(vs. 1-8) In this section of verses, Paul shows the Corinthians their image in a mirror: they've been acting like common worldly (sinful) people by taking each other to court and bickering. But in Christ, they're future rulers and judges (in the time after Jesus returns)! Wow! What dignity! The Corinthians have the mind of Christ because of the Holy Spirit. They have access to all the wisdom they need to judge cases in the church fairly. Refusing to pay attention to God's wisdom had caused them to damage their witness for Jesus.

RESPONSE

(vs. 19-20) Read these verses slowly and then write them out by hand, thinking about the message as you go. What stands out to you? The Old Testament temple was the place where God's Spirit dwelt. WOW! That means that if you're a believer, your body is a place where God dwells. He's home wherever you are. So, it really matters what you choose to do with your body. Take a few minutes to think about how this might change the way you live.

(Optional: If you have an older student, look back at vs. 8-11 and talk about how this is different from what our culture teaches.)



## Instructions (And Advice) For Married And Unmarried People

### SUMMARY *(write or draw)*

### WHAT STOOD OUT

**FAV WORDS**

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**Note to parents regarding v1.** If you read this with your student, please draw attention to the quotation marks. This phrase is something the Corinthians were saying and that they brought up to Paul. It doesn't reflect his view or the Bible's, so he will begin addressing it in the very next verse. From the beginning of creation, God called the physical relationship between husbands and wives "very good." Also, note v9. This is one of the places in Scripture that shows us that God does not intend sexual relationships to exist outside of marriage

### HISTORY

(v26) Some people think Paul might be referring to a terrible famine that happened in A.D. 51-52. Because Jesus warned us that difficult things would happen as His return gets closer, Paul likely believed Jesus might come back very soon.

### A place for thoughts *(write or draw)*

### WORTH A NOTE

(vs. 29-31) Paul isn't saying that we should ignore those we love or that we shouldn't care about our lives. He is making a dramatic point that as wonderful as this world is, it is actually temporary. Our love for God and our hope in Him should be so much brighter and stronger than anything we hold onto tightly here. We should be ready to meet Him whenever He comes!

### This story inspired me to...



Thinking Of Others First

**SUMMARY** *(write or draw)*

**HISTORY**

If you were eating meat from the market in Corinth, there was a decent chance that you were eating something that had been offered to an idol! It was common for temples to make money by selling what was left from a sacrifice. Red meat was very expensive. Most common people were rarely able to buy it, so Paul's words here probably had the biggest impact on the church's wealthy members. They were often invited to social gatherings where a host provided meat (and sometimes told them that it had been a sacrifice) or where the party took place in a dining room that was associated with a temple. Paul wants them to know how to handle this.

**A place for thoughts**  
*(write or draw)*

**WHAT STOOD OUT**

**This story inspired me to...**

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**BACKSTORY**

A stumbling block is a stone that you might trip and fall over. When a new believer who had just come out of worshipping idols saw a respected believer associating with the temple (even just in eating its food), it could cause them to wonder if their mentors were actually worshipping the idols! This could damage their faith.



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Paul: Setting An Example For Self-Giving Service Toward Others

SUMMARY (write or draw)

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WHAT STOOD OUT

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FAV WORDS

Decorative banner with speech bubble icons and the text 'FAV WORDS'.

HIGHLIGHT

(vs. 1-23) Paul has just been talking to his friends about the need to lay aside their personal freedoms (rights) to serve others in their church. He's now going to back that up by showing them how he has laid aside his rights to serve them! He's not asking them to do anything that he isn't willing to do first himself! According to this chapter, what privileges or rights has Paul given up to serve people freely? Why has he done this (v 19, 22-23), and what is his goal?

HISTORY

(vs. 24-27) Paul uses a word picture to show that every one of his self-discipline choices serves a single purpose. He's working very hard because he's pushing toward the finish line that God set before him! (Fun fact! The area near Corinth hosted the Isthmian Games every other year. The people of Corinth would have immediately thought of the trained, focused runners and boxers they saw competing there. The winner of each event would be crowned with a wreath of leaves.)

A place for thoughts (write or draw)

This story inspired me to...





## The Lessons Of History For The Present Life Of Faith

### SUMMARY *(write or draw)*

Blank space for writing a summary of the chapter.

### BACKSTORY

Paul sees that his friends struggle with temptation (the pull to do wrong things) in a few different areas. He starts this chapter by reminding them of stories from the Old Testament (O.T.) in which God's people from long ago were tempted to do the same things as the Corinthians! He shares little phrases from each story to jog his friends' memory. If you haven't read those stories very often, it might be tough to remember what he's talking about. Your Bible may have little numbers and letters by these verses to help you find the O.T. stories. The point of this section comes in vs. 11-14. What promise do we have when we face temptation (v13)?

### WHAT STOOD OUT

Three large, empty rectangular boxes with dashed outlines for writing notes on what stood out.

### FAV WORDS

Four speech bubble shapes for writing favorite words: a solid one at the top, a dashed one, a solid one, and a dashed one at the bottom.

### A place for thoughts *(write or draw)*

A large grey rectangular area for writing thoughts or drawing, with a dashed line separating the top and bottom sections.

### This story inspired me to...

### HIGHLIGHT

(vs. 31-33)  
Verse 31 is an important instruction for all of life! Consider memorizing it. Paul knew that the Corinthians had acted selfishly—so he gives them a new example to follow. Look at the last half of v33. What does Paul seek? What does he want them to do?



## Outward Signs Of Spiritual Realities

### SUMMARY *(write or draw)*

### WHAT STOOD OUT

### FAV WORDS

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### BACKSTORY

(vs. 17-34) Read this section carefully, and then write what you learn about the Lord's supper. What is the purpose? How was it started? What was the problem the Corinthians were causing? (FYI: the Lord's supper happened as part of a true meal in those days.)

### HISTORY

(vs. 1-16) This passage can be hard to understand without some history to go along with it. Why does Paul tell men not to pray with their heads covered? Because that's how men prayed in the pagan temples (temples to idols or false gods). He wanted everyone who saw Christians praying to know that they weren't participating in idol worship! Why did he want women to have their heads covered? Because wearing a thin veil over the back of the head in Roman society was like wearing a wedding ring! If a woman took off her head covering in public, she was saying she wasn't committed to her husband! Whoa! In verses 13-16, Paul says that women should look like women and men should look like men. The choices they make about their appearance should match their God-given, holy identity. (Long hair at that time was usually only worn by women or young boys. When a man chose to wear his hair long, it signaled certain bad character traits.)

**This story inspired me to...**



How God's Family (The Church) Is Like A Body With Many Parts

**SUMMARY** *(write or draw)*

**HIGHLIGHT**

(vs. 1-11) In this chapter, Paul shows the Corinthians how things are different now that they serve the true God, rather than a mute idol! God is working with them and in them to accomplish His purposes! Look at verse 7. Why are spiritual gifts given to us? Take a minute to list some of the gifts you see here. [Fun facts! "Prophecy" is receiving understanding from the Lord that you then speak to others. "Distinguishing between receiving a message from God and giving it to the church." "Distinguishing between spirits" is having a God-given ability to quickly see what's true and false when someone claims to speak or work for God. "Different kinds of tongues" is the ability to speak about or pray to God in a language that you've never learned! "Interpretation of tongues" is the ability to hear the unknown language and understand it (to tell the meaning to others).]

**A place for thoughts**  
*(write or draw)*

**WHAT STOOD OUT**

**This story inspired me to...**

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**RESPONSE**

(vs. 12-30) What is the word picture Paul gives for the church? What is the main point? How does God want us to see each other's part in the church? (Make special note of verses 25 and 26!)

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What Love Looks Like

**SUMMARY** *(write or draw)*

Blank space for writing a summary of the chapter.

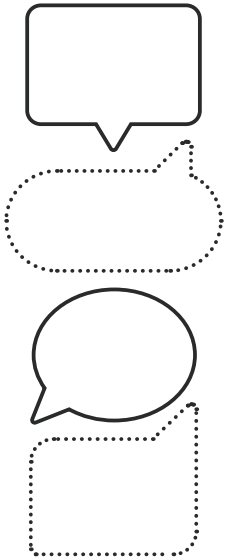
**RESPONSE**

(vs. 4-13) In this section, we get a really good picture of what love looks like! Pick three of the descriptions that stand out to you and write them down in "A place for your thoughts." Ask God to help you recognize and grow in real love (toward Him, others, and even yourself). [Fun fact! Verse 9 says that love will remain forever! But some of the gifts we have now will only be needed until Jesus returns (then we'll see Him face to face)!]

**WHAT STOOD OUT**

Three large vertical boxes with dotted lines inside, intended for students to write down what stood out to them.

**FAV WORDS**



**A place for thoughts** *(write or draw)*

Two large grey rectangular areas for writing or drawing thoughts inspired by the story.

**This story inspired me to...**

**FIND IT**

(vs. 1-3) What is the thing mentioned here that makes everything else suddenly worthwhile? How does Paul describe our most impressive tasks if they're done without love? How would you explain to someone what love is?



Respecting Each Other As The Church Gathers For Worship

**SUMMARY** *(write or draw)*

**WORTH A NOTE**

(vs. 1-33) In these verses, Paul gives the church instructions about how to “follow the way of love” when they worship together (v1). They seem to have been experiencing problems in their gatherings. [Note: 1) Speaking in tongues is praying or speaking in a language unknown to you or to others. 2) If your Bible uses the word “edify,” it means “to build up.”] Why does Paul say the gift of prophecy (receiving messages from God for the church) is helpful? Paul gives his reasons in vs. 1-25 and then gets down to specific instructions in 26-33. What does he want them to do?

**A place for thoughts**  
*(write or draw)*

**This story inspired me to...**

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**WHAT STOOD OUT**

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**FUN FACT**

(vs. 34-39) First, go back and read verses 26-33 because verses 34-39 are a continuation of the same message. Note: Paul is NOT saying that women should never speak in church. In fact, 1 Cor. 11:5 gives instructions to women who are praying and prophesying! Paul’s word here is most likely referring to the time when believers are evaluating prophecies. The women (this can also be translated as “wives”) are not supposed to interrupt the process by asking questions (this might mean questions about prophecies made by their husbands—but we aren’t sure). P.S. The word “silent” can also be translated as “peaceful.” The last line of this chapter sums up its whole purpose. What does it say?



Resurrection: The Anchor Of Our Hope

SUMMARY (write or draw)

WHAT STOOD OUT

FAV WORDS

Four horizontal dotted lines for writing favorite words.

HIGHLIGHT

This is such an important chapter. Paul reminds the Corinthians of the core of the gospel (the good news about Jesus). It seems that someone had begun to convince them that there was no resurrection (coming back to life after death) at all! That would mean that not even Jesus had been raised! This false teaching had shaken their hope for the future. So, Paul begins with a review of the real story. What do you learn in verses 1-7? Can you retell it in your own words? In verses 12-19, Paul helps the Corinthians trace the false line of thinking to see that it's going nowhere good!

FUN FACT

The first fruits were the very first pieces of the harvest—like the earliest ripe apples on the tree. You could see what the rest of the crop was going to be like! When we look at Jesus' resurrected body in the gospels, we see what ours will one day be like too!

A place for thoughts (write or draw)

This story inspired me to...

(vs. 35-58)  
When will you be raised to new life?  
When Jesus returns! Verse 58 tells us what effect this should have on us!  
(Note: the Bible often refers to death as "sleep." One day, Jesus is going to wake us up!)





Closing Greetings And Taking Up A Collection For Others

SUMMARY (write or draw)

Large empty rectangular box for writing or drawing a summary.

WHAT STOOD OUT

Three circles: the first and third are dotted lines, the middle one is a solid line.

FAV WORDS

Decorative banner with speech bubble icons and the text 'FAV WORDS'.

A place for thoughts (write or draw)

This story inspired me to...

HISTORY

There had been a famine (a shortage of food) in Jerusalem. It seems that maybe some of God's people needed help. Turn back to 1 Cor. 12:26. How are the members of God's family to respond when one of them is suffering? We care for one another-most especially in our local churches, but also members of God's family far away.

HIGHLIGHT

In verses 13-14, Paul gives the Corinthians a summary charge (a call to action). What does he tell them to do? How can you put those words into practice in your own life? It may look a little bit different for you than it did for those in Corinth in the first century A.D.!

