

# 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians (#2)

## Faith Village Adult Education

### January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 (1 Corinthians 4: 1-5)

- 1) When Paul says "...men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God", to whom does the "Us" refer? The Apostles, the Corinthians, or Christians everywhere? (Vs. 1) Why does this matter?
- 2) Why does Paul mention a "trust"? (Vs. 2)
- 3) Paul seems to be saying no one can "judge" before the Lord comes. (Vs. 5) Does this mean we can't evaluate people and doctrines until the return of Jesus? Did Paul violate his own rule by "judging" the Corinthians?
- 4) Do Paul's words in verse 4 clarify verse 5? *"My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me."*
- 5) Does this mean a "clean conscience" and a "saved soul" are two different things? Why or why not?

### January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (1 Corinthians 4: 6-13)

- 1) What does, "Do not go beyond what is written" mean in this context? (Vs. 6)
- 2) What type of "kings" had the Corinthians' become? How did it happen? (Vs.8)
- 3) Why does Paul say God had placed the apostles "...on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the arena"? (Vs. 9)
- 4) What does this tell us about leadership?
- 5) What does this also tell us about living the Christian life—especially in vs 11-14?
- 6) How does this compare to the world's view of being a Christian?

### February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (1 Corinthians 4: 14-21)

- 1) What is the significance of Paul's claim to be their "father in the gospel"?
- 2) Does this violate Jesus' command to "call no man father?" (Matthew 23: 9)
- 3) What kind of "fatherly" things did Paul do for the Corinthians?
- 4) Could you make the same statement Paul made in verse 16? Could you urge your friends and family to imitate you? Why or why not?
- 5) What does it take to be viewed as a "fatherly" figure in the faith?
- 6) *"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power."* (Vs. 20) What does this statement mean to you? What should it mean for the church?

### February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (1 Corinthians 5: 1-8)

- 1) According to this passage, should a church take disciplinary action against sin in its own body? Why or why not?
- 2) Why were the Corinthians “proud” of this man’s sin? (Vs. 2)
- 3) Won’t “dis-fellowshipping” a brother create “public relations” problems for the church with the community? Should we *still* do it?
- 4) *When* should the church take action? While the offender is attending church or after he is gone?
- 5) Does Paul not contradict himself? In 5:3 he writes, “...*I have already passed judgment on the one who did this...*”, but in 4:5 he writes, “...*judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes.*” How do we harmonize both statements?
- 6) According to Paul, what is the main purpose for dis-fellowship?
- 7) Is there a right way to do it? Is there a wrong way to do it?

### February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (1 Corinthians 5: 9-13)

- 1) For what sins should the church withdraw fellowship? Do we focus on one sin more than others?
- 2) So is Paul saying it would be acceptable to withdraw fellowship from someone who is divisive (“slanderer”), deceptive (“swindler”), or can’t get off the bottle (“drunkard”)?
- 3) If the church had to withdraw from your best friend, would you support the decision? Why or why not?
- 4) Once the decision was made, would you “eat with him” after fellowship was withdrawn? (Vs. 11) Is Paul really saying we can’t even share a meal together?
- 5) Is it an option to just turn our heads the other way and let God handle it? In other words, just avoid church discipline?

### February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (1 Corinthians 6: 1-11)

- 1) From your study of this lesson today, is there ever an acceptable time for Christians to go to court against other Christians?
- 2) What does Paul mean when he says “saints” will judge the world? (Vs. 2)
- 3) Is it really better to be “wronged” or “cheated” than sue brethren? (Vs. 7)
- 4) In matters of dispute, do we have other options than going to court? How would we go about using those options effectively and biblically?
- 5) What is the significance of verse 11? How should this define our identity in Christ?