

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### INTRODUCTION | 1 CORINTHIANS

It has been said that the first letter from the Apostle Paul to the church in Corinth is written in typical “Pauline” fashion, summarizing it in the following order:

1. I thank God for you.
2. Hold fast to the Gospel, my dear brothers.
3. For the love of everything that is holy, please stop being stupid.
4. Also, Timothy says “Hi.”

The church in Corinth was both a troubled church and a very gifted church. Paul writes to them in order to address, correct, and teach on the foundations of a healthy church. Paul is convinced that a foundational understanding of gospel doctrine leads to confessional devotion. It is what we preach regularly at Storehouse McAllen: what we believe shapes how we live.

The church in Corinth experienced great trouble because they wanted to fold the life of the world into their own lives and worship, greatly affecting and abusing the doctrines of God, the practice of holiness, and a love for one another.

In our study of *1 Corinthians*, we will be challenged not simply doctrinally, but devotionally. Though we experience external temptation from the world (*1 Jn. 2:15*), it is not our chief problem. It is the internal that affects us greatly (*1 Jn. 2:16*) and how we relate to one another and to those who do not know Jesus.

It is for this reason why we’re tackling *1 Corinthians*: to be reminded that we are only as strong as the foundation that we stand upon, the Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that we are humbled, sanctified, and challenged as a church in our study of this beautiful letter.

For His glory,

Pastor Marco De Leon

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## BACKGROUND

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While on his third missionary journey, the apostle Paul wrote the letter of 1 Corinthians to a fractured church in the city of Corinth in Ancient Greece around A.D. 54. Paul had planted the church in Corinth on his second missionary journey (*Acts 17:16-18:17*). After receiving both a concerning report about the church from “Chloe’s people” (v. 11) and a letter from the Corinthians themselves asking Paul various questions (*7:1*), Paul penned this letter to respond to a host of issues.

Much has been written about the city of ancient Corinth. Originally it was a Greek city in line with the so-called “Achaean league,” but it was destroyed by the Roman, Mummius, in 146 B.C. After almost 100 years of the city being left mostly desolate, it was reestablished as a Roman colony by Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. By the time Paul arrived at Corinth in approximately 50 A.D. The city was at the height of its glory. As with most other Roman colonies, it had essentially become a little Rome, full of its grandeur and enticements.

Corinth was well known for its immorality. In the ancient world, to “Corinthianize” became synonymous with the act of fornication, and Plato created the euphemism “Corinthian girl” for a prostitute. With this in mind, it is less surprising that sexual immorality was among the issues that Paul addresses in *1 Corinthians 5:1-13*. Additionally, Corinth was well known for its “Isthmian games,” which were athletic competitions very similar to those of the Olympics. This is likely why Paul uses athletic imagery in *1 Corinthians 9:24-28*.

One of the main problems with this church is that they thought and acted just like the pagan world around them (*3:3*). They were divided amongst themselves based upon certain leaders and personalities (*1-4*); they were proud of explicit sexual immorality within the church (*5*); they were taking other church members to court (*6*); they were causing one another to stumble when it came to food sacrificed to idols (*8-10*); and they were divisive when it came to the gifts of the Spirit and how those gifts related to the gathered body (*12-14*).

In other words, this church had so many issues that one wonders why any modern church would want to be named after it. Yet Paul, under the Holy Spirit’s inspiration, is going to address each of these issues throughout this wonderful letter. Furthermore, Paul gives us added doctrinal clarity on a host of other topics, including sanctification (*1:2*), godly leadership in the church (*3-4*), church discipline (*5*), navigating conscience issues within the church (*8-10*), singleness and marriage (*7*), principles for Christian giving and generosity (*9*), the Lord’s Supper (*11*), proper use of spiritual gifts within the church (*12-14*), and the resurrection of Christ (*15*).

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## COMMUNITY GROUPS

### What Is A Community Group?

Community Groups are small gatherings of people that meet weekly for friendship, accountability, study and prayer, laughter, and occasionally tears. Community Groups (CGs) serve as the main vehicle of discipleship and care at Storehouse Community Church. In short, our CGs are a family of disciples making disciples of Jesus in ordinary life.

Each CG is unique and shaped by the people who attend and the city they meet in. At the heart of each CG is a desire to gather as family and friends, grow in our relationship with Jesus, and go into our cities on mission.

### Why Should I Join A Community Group?

The Bible teaches us that God is relational, personal, and invested which, in turn, means that we are created for friendship and community. It is in community where we flourish through relationship and challenge. CGs are more than a weekly event, but a time to grow and cultivate a relationship with God and others.

### Where Do Community Groups Meet?

CGs are strategically planted throughout McAllen and its surrounding cities in an effort to engage our city and community. Whether meeting at a home, local coffee shop, or college campus, we desire to see every aspect of our cities blessed by God's people.

### How Do I Get Connected?

There are two ways that you can get connected: you can visit our Connect desk on Sunday and our volunteers will help you through the process or you can visit [storehousemcallen.com/community](https://storehousemcallen.com/community) to learn more and sign up!

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## RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

1. [Exalting Jesus in 1 Corinthians by Daniel Akin](#)

"*Exalting Jesus in 1 Corinthians* is part of the *Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary* series. Edited by David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, this commentary series takes a Christ-centered approach to expositing each book of the Bible. Each chapter explains and applies key passages, providing helpful outlines for study and teaching."

2. [What Is a Healthy Church Member? By Thabiti M. Anyabwile](#)

"God intends for us to play an active and vital part in the body of Christ, the local church. He wants us to experience the local church as a home more profoundly wonderful and meaningful than any other place on earth. He intends for his churches to be healthy places and for the members of those churches to be healthy as well. This book explains how membership in the local church can produce spiritual growth in its members and how each member can contribute to the growth and health of the whole."

3. [Deeper: Real Change for Real Sinners](#)

"In this book, Dane Ortlund points believers to Christ, making the case that sanctification does not happen by doing more or becoming better, but by going *deeper* into the wondrous gospel truths that washed over them when they were first united to him. Drawing on wisdom from figures throughout church history, Ortlund encourages readers to fix their gaze on Jesus in the battle against sin, casting themselves upon his grace and living out their invincible identity in Christ."

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## KIDS RESOURCES

### 1. [God Made Me Series](#)

The *God Made Me* series features beautifully illustrated children's books created to help guide parents and caretakers toward important, gospel-centered conversations with their kids. The back of each book contains a special section just for parents and caregivers that will guide them in how to have biblical, loving conversations with children and give them additional information and resources to equip them in talking about this important subject. Book series includes: *God Made Babies* by Justin & Lindsey Holcomb, *God Made Me in His Image* by Justin & Lindsey Holcomb, *God Made Me for Heaven* by Marty Machowski, *God Cares for Me* by Scott James, *God Made Me for Worship* by Jared Kennedy, *God Made All of Me* by Justin & Lindsey Holcomb, *God Made Me AND You* by Shai Linne, *God Made Me Unique* by Joni and Friends, *God Made Boys and Girls* by Marty Machowski.

### 2. [Preparing Children for Marriage: How to Teach God's Good Design for Marriage, Sex, Purity, and Dating](#)

Our culture is zealous in reaching children with its own take on sex and marriage, but shouldn't we be able to talk about these things and their place in God's larger narrative? Parents, grandparents, and others in the church will learn how to bring the truth home by starting the conversation with their children early—and returning to it often.

### 3. [A Child's First Book About Marriage](#)

The world's view of marriage can often be very different to what the Bible says. But who is right, and who should we listen to? From a very young age, children are confronted with and can be confused by these conflicts. This hardback, illustrated title helps to explain the beauties of God's plan for marriage to children of any age, introducing them to a different, counter-cultural way of viewing these aspects of life and faith.

### 4. [The Water and the Blood: How the Sacraments Shape Christian Identity](#)

Kevin P. Emmert combats this egocentric mindset with a sustainable solution through Jesus Christ. Emmert explores the depth of Christian identity, which our triune God makes visible through the sacraments of the gospel.

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## DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK ONE

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

### DISCUSSION

- Theologians make a distinction between the “universal” church and the “local” church. Using *1 Corinthians 1:2*, what does Paul say the “universal” church is? What then, is the “local” church?
- Though the church in Corinth was plagued by the problems of division, sexual immorality, and false doctrines, Paul also mentioned that they were spiritually gifted (*1:4-7*). What does this teach us about God’s grace in imparting spiritual gifts?
- When you sin, do you feel cast aside by God? How does *1 Corinthians 1:7-9* provide encouragement during times of guilt and shame?

### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Discussion:** Paul stresses the importance of being Jesus-centered. He mentions the name Jesus 9 times in *verses 1-9*. How can we live a life that is centered on Christ our Savior? What does that look like in school? Work? When we are out with family or friends?
- **Discussion:** *Verses 4-9* Paul thanks God for the gifts and blessings that God has given to the church. Talk to your children about their special gifts and skills and how they can use them for the glory of God.
- **Activity:** Based on the teachings from *1 Corinthians 1:1-9*, have the children create a "Gratitude and Talents Tree" craft. This activity combines the concepts of gratitude, community, and recognizing individual talents, as discussed in the verses. Materials: A large poster board or a roll of butcher paper, markers, crayons, or colored pencils, construction paper in various colors, scissors, glue or tape. **Steps:**
  1. Draw a large tree with many branches on the poster board or butcher paper. This represents the community and togetherness theme.
  2. Cut out leaf shapes from construction paper. Ask each child to write something they are thankful for on a leaf. This could be family, friends, a pet, a favorite toy, etc. It's a way to express gratitude, as Paul did for the Corinthians.
  3. Alongside the leaves, add fruits (like apples or oranges made from construction paper). On these fruits, children can write or draw a talent or skill they possess or are developing. This is to acknowledge and celebrate individual gifts and talents.
  4. Add small flower shapes to represent patience and anticipation. On each flower, children can write or draw something they are looking forward to or hoping for.
  5. Have the children attach their leaves, fruits, and flowers to the tree. As they do this, they can share what they've written or drawn, fostering a sense of community and sharing.

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### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK TWO

1 Corinthians 1:10-17

#### DISCUSSION

- Read *1 Corinthians 1:10*. In your own words, define “unity” and how it is different from “uniformity.”
- As a result of following different people, the Corinthian church was divided in a contentious manner (*1 Cor. 1:12-13*). In your past experience, have you been involved in a divided church? If so, how has that impacted the way you view The Church?
- Church division can occur when a group of people feel “superior” than others for a variety of reasons (e.g., serving ability, “seniority,” “spirituality,” etc.). How does *Galatians 3:28* dispel that type of thinking?
- Not only does The Church unite us with Christ, but it unites us with one another (*Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:27*). How well do you fellowship with other members of the local church? Has it been difficult? If so, why?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Discussion:** What makes a happy family? Talk about the word “unity” and how Paul is encouraging, and even urging, the church of Corinth to not have any divisions amongst themselves. How can we show unity in our own family? How can we show unity in our home church?
- **Activity:** Make a paper chain by handing out to each person in your family a slip of paper. Have them write how they can grow in unity with one another at home or at church. Then connect all the papers with each other to create a unity chain.
- **Memory Verse:** *John 18:23* “I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.”

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### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK THREE

1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

#### DISCUSSION

- In what ways do people today regard Christianity as foolish? Why?
- What are some challenges you've encountered while sharing the gospel? What has been encouraging?
- Paul mentions that he did not proclaim the gospel with "lofty speech or wisdom." Why is this important?
- What are some ways you have been tempted to use articulate language or rely only on your intelligence to share the gospel?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Activity:** Draw a picture of or write the name of each of the following ways to get wisdom—Bible, parents, pastor, godly Christians, prayer—on an index card or piece of paper. Hide these when your kids are not looking. Ask: Where can you find wisdom? Instruct the kids to search for five cards (hidden around the room) that tell how to get wisdom. After you have found them, let each child read his card and tell how one can gain wisdom from them. Read Proverbs 2:1-6 aloud to see what Solomon (one of the wisest men who ever lived) said about finding wisdom. Encourage your kids to look in the Bible or ask God for wisdom or ask you or another godly person when they want to know the right thing to do.
- **Discussion:** In *1 Corinthians 2:2*, Paul says "For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." (ESV) Let those words sink in for a minute. What does it mean to know nothing except Jesus Christ? How does knowing that Christ died for our sins change how we live and treat others?
- **Pray This Verse Over Your Family:** "...so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." *1 Corinthians 2:5*.



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### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK FOUR

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

#### DISCUSSION

- Read *1 Corinthians 2:7*. What does it mean that “we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God”? What is this secret and hidden wisdom?
- Read *Psalms 139:1-12*. God is omniscient, which means he is all-knowing. What is comforting about the Spirit searching and knowing everything? In contrast, what can be frightening about this truth?
- Why is it necessary for us to rely on the Spirit’s wisdom and not our own?
- What does it mean to have “the mind of Christ”?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Discussion:** v 7-8 “but we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.” What was the secret and hidden wisdom of God? Why is it wise for us to know that Jesus came and died for our sins and resurrected on the third day? How can we live this out?
- **Activity:** Hang up a picture of Jesus in a room and set up a spotlight underneath that is pointed directly at the picture. Speak to your kids about the Holy Spirit’s role in bringing people to Jesus. Turn off the lights and make sure the room is very dark. Have everyone name something about the picture of Jesus that they like. They may mention that they can’t see the picture. Click on the spotlight and then have everyone name something about the picture they like. Explain to them that the Holy Spirit is like the spotlight, pointing everyone to Jesus.
- **Sing Together:** [“God Gives Us The Holy Spirit”](#) by Austin Stone Worship

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## DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK FIVE

1 Corinthians 3:1-23

### DISCUSSION

- One thing that leads to division in the church is immaturity in the gospel. How have you been trying to grow deeper in your knowledge and understanding of the gospel?
- As Christians, we still act in a human way or “in the flesh” (v.3). Why is it important to keep this in mind as we follow Jesus, and what should be our response when we find areas of our lives that are “of the flesh”? Be specific.
- What’s the difference between human or Godly wisdom, and how do we know that we’re operating from one instead of the other?
- Are there any areas of your life that you tend to give too much weight to human wisdom? What are they?

### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Discuss Together:** How would you define jealousy and strife? Paul is stressing that the Corinthians’ behavior and attitude towards each other doesn’t match the faith they received from God. What do we give up on or lose sight of when we keep a jealous or prideful attitude? How do *James 1:14-5*, *Proverbs 14:30*, *Psalms 119:37* help us turn from our envy and strife, and turn towards the gospel of Jesus?
- **Activity:** What can make the seed grow? Supplies include several small pots filled with soil, a cup of water, and seeds of any kind. Have each child or family member share in the description of *1 Corinthians 3:5-9* for planting and watering. Tell how God is the one who assigned each of us to share His good news, and He is the one who grows us all by His Word with one another (in community/His church). All of us are like these seeds. Someone has to plant seeds, water the seeds and take care of the plants. But the plants, like us, can only grow with God's help. He is the source of the strength, care, and wisdom we need to grow in living more like Jesus.
- **Memorize & Sing Together:** *Colossians 2:6-7* | [Walk In Him \(Hand Motions\)](#) “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

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### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK SIX

1 Corinthians 4:1-21

#### DISCUSSION

- Read *1 Corinthians 4:1-5*. Discuss what “judging” means in the Bible (*Matt. 7:1-5; John 7:24*). Should Christians judge others? Should we care about what people think of us as Christians?
- Paul uses sarcasm to prove that at the foot of the cross lie those who are shamed, brutalized, and marginalized for the sake of Christ (*1 Corinthians 4:8-13*). Do you find yourself living in a comfortable and convenient Christianity? How can we guard ourselves from living in this manner?
- What is the importance of discipleship in the church (*1 Corinthians 4:14-21*)?
- How do you respond when other Christian’s correct you regarding a sin you’ve committed?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Discussion:** What does a judge do? What does it take to be a good judge? Why is it good news that God is our judge? (See *Isaiah 33:22, Deut. 32:4*).
- **Discussion:** Paul says that God will “bring to light what is hidden in the dark.” He isn’t talking about seeing things in the daylight when the sun comes up. He also isn’t talking about seeing things in the dark with a flashlight. What is Paul helping the Corinthians understand what God brings to light in them? (See *Proverbs 4:23, Luke 6:35, and Psalm 139:1*)
- **Pray Together:** Dear Father, thank you that you are the one true judge - not others and not even ourselves. Thank you for being loving and just by sending Your Son to take the punishment of sin at the cross, so that we could have new hearts. Please help us by Your Spirit, to love you and seek to serve you with our whole heart everyday. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

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### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK SEVEN

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

#### DISCUSSION

- Instead of rebuking the man who slept with his step-mother, the Corinthians overlooked this man's sin (*1 Corinthians 5:1-3*). Have you ever ignored the sins of those around you for certain reasons? If so, how do you feel after not confronting them about their sin?
- "Excommunication" is the word used when a local church removes a person from its membership due to their habitual and unrepentant sin (*Matt. 18:15-17*). Though this is the final step in the church discipline process, why might this be necessary (*1 Cor. 5:5-8*)?
- Paul talks very severely about those within the church who practice sexual immorality among other sins (*1 Cor. 5:11-13*). Why do you think there is a higher accountability for those who are in the church as opposed to those who are not believers? What makes sexual immorality, in particular, so bad?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **Activity:** Take a glass of water and add just one drop of food coloring. The one drop of food coloring seems like "no big deal," but it makes a big difference in the water! Once the food coloring is in the water, is it possible to remove it? How is this like giving in to temptation that seems like "no big deal"? What is something you've been thinking or doing that is "no big deal" to you, but is a big deal to God?
- **Discussion:** What are some rules your parents have for you to obey? What's helpful or good about having these rules? What are the consequences if you disobey? Why does God want His people to be reminded about and walk through church discipline?
- **Pray Together:** God, help us take our sin seriously. We know our sin puts us in opposition to You, so we pray that You will open our eyes to look to the cross. Surround us with other believers who can support and help us grow in our relationship to You. We desire to please You and ask You to forgive us for the sins we've committed, especially the ones believed as "no big deal." Thank you for Jesus, who took on my sin and gave me His righteousness. Thank you for giving the Holy Spirit, who helps me live in newness each day in faith and Your truth. Help Your church grow in knowing and living like Jesus. Amen.

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK EIGHT

#### 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

#### DISCUSSION

- The Corinthians would frequently take their fellow brothers and sisters to court because of minor disputes (*1 Cor. 6:1*). The issue was not the legal system, but rather the Corinthians' inability to resolve these issues amongst each other due to their posture of disunity. Why is it vital for the Church to learn how to resolve in-house disputes? What should the Church's posture be towards conflict resolution (*Gal. 6:1; James 1:19-20, 4:10; Eph. 4:31-32*)?
- Paul admonishes the Corinthians for going to a judge that "[has] no standing in the church" as opposed to the people of God to settle their disputes (*1 Cor. 6:4-6*). Similarly, we can do the same with our unbelieving friends. Though at times our unbelieving friends can give good advice, why is it essential to prioritize discernment and direction from the community of God? Is it more difficult for you to approach the community of God than your unbelieving friends? Why or why not?
- After listing nine groups of individuals who will not inherit the kingdom of God due to their unrepentant and habitual sin (*1 Cor. 6:9-10*), Paul reminds the Corinthians that at one time they were categorized in those groups, but since have been saved by Jesus (*1 Cor. 6:11*). To illustrate their salvation, Paul uses words such as "washed", "sanctified", and "justified" (*1 Cor. 6:11*). To the best of your ability, define each word and describe how they are different from each other.

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Watch [Children's Video Skit](#) for *1 Corinthians 6:1-8*. When have you ever fought out of greed, pride, or entitlement? How did God's grace show us how to confront conflict?
- Search and Discuss Together - What does the Bible say about being washed, sanctified, and justified? See *Acts 22:16, 1 John 1:7, 1 Cor. 1:2, 30, Rom. 3:24-26, 4:5*. What do those actions done by Jesus have to do with God's kingdom?
- Sing and Memorize together - [Colossians 1:13-14](#) - "For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins."

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK NINE

#### 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

#### DISCUSSION

- The doctrine of Christian liberty teaches that in Christ we are free to enjoy all that God has created (art, music, food, beverages, nature, electronics, apparel...etc.). Though we have freedom to take part of these privileges, we should always be cautious to not fall into sin. In addition, we should also be cautious to not make other people stumble into sin. Considering *1 Corinthians 6:12*, how does this verse protect us when navigating through issues of Christian liberty?
- The Corinthians believed that their bodies served no purpose outside of this life. As a result, they would often give themselves up to the pleasures of the world (*1 Cor. 6:13*). However, Paul assured them that God would “raise [them] up by His power” in the same way “God raised the Lord” (*1 Cor. 6:14*). How should this truth of our bodily resurrection influence the way we live today?
- Read *1 Corinthians 6:17* and *12:12-20*. In your own words, define what the doctrine of Union with Christ is. What are some practical ways we can demonstrate the spiritual reality of our Union with Christ with our brothers and sisters at Storehouse?
- In your own opinion, why is sexual sin so dangerous? In what ways can we honor God with our bodies, considering that they are meant for the Lord (*1 Cor. 6:19-20*)?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Sing Together - [1 Corinthians 6:20 Sing Along](#), and [Not Your Own](#)
- How does knowing that you are bought for a price help you better care for your body and spirit?
- Memory Verse Activity - A) Hand Molds or Foot Prints: Use playdough or modeling clay or another product that will allow you to make a mold of each child’s hand or feet. Once the mold is made and dry, children can write *1 Corinthians 6:20* on it. Or, use paint to cover the palm of each child’s hand and make a print of their hand on a piece of paper. Have them write the key verse around their hand print. B) Materials: Paper, scissors, glue, markers Instructions: 1. Use a long piece of paper that can be folded 15 times (like an accordion). 2. On the front of the folded paper, draw a picture of a person. 3. Cut out the figure (with the paper folded). Make sure to not cut along the folded edges. The hands and the feet will connect all of the figures. 4. Open the folded paper and write each word of the Bible verse on each one of the people. 5. Hang on the wall, and say the verse together!

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK TEN

#### 1 Corinthians 7:1-24

#### DISCUSSION

- Is sexual temptation a good reason to get married? Consider *Proverbs 5:15*.
- Read *verses 3-4*. What does a God-glorifying marriage that has equality and is reciprocal and mutual look like?
- What could the distinction between the “gift of singleness” and the “gift of contentment” look like? Why do you think this is an important distinction?
- One of the main themes in this passage is contentment. What is the role of contentment in marriage? What about in singleness?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- **PARENTS**
  - How are you teaching your kids explicitly and implicitly about marriage and singleness? What encouragement do you get from Paul in this text?
  - How can you talk to your kids about not just the prohibitions relating to sex (don't have sex outside of marriage) but also about the goodness of sex according to God's design?
  - What questions and goals do you have regarding teaching your kids about sex, singleness, and marriage?
  - How are you equipping your children to fight against sexual immorality in their own lives?
- Sing and Memorize together - [2 Peter 1:3](#) Life & Godliness
- Prayer - God, would you please keep showing us how to live as Christ-like examples to our children, in humility and grace. May our own perceptions, circumstances, and expectations around marriage and singleness be renewed by your Spirit to teach Your truth faithfully to the next generation. Holy Spirit, help our hearts grow in contentment with the gifts You've given us to live in, for Your glory and our good.

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK ELEVEN

1 Corinthians 7:25-40

#### DISCUSSION

- What advantages are there to singleness? What "worldly troubles" can come with marriage?
- In what ways do our marriages hold us back from our service to Christ and the Kingdom?
- Everything from marriage, sorrow, joy, and possessions will pass away one day. We must consider the things above, Paul writes elsewhere. Our eternal security informs our present responsibility. What do we need to change in order to align our affections correctly for Christ and His kingdom? In what ways are you seeking after your own satisfactions in the world instead of in Christ? Be specific.

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Search and discuss together: How do *1 Peter 4:7, 22-25*, *1 John 2:16-17*, and *Psalms 39* help direct (and redirect) our hearts to understand what is and isn't passing away in this world?
- Why does Paul not want the Corinthians to be anxious? What things stop us from loving God and living like Jesus with all of our emotions, choices, and passion? Is it possible to love God with our actions and words, but not with our heart?
- Prayer - God, I thank you for helping me trust in Your mercy. You gave a sinner like me the greatest gift that I didn't deserve, salvation through Jesus Christ. I confess I have let my anxious and troubling thoughts about (name any area of dissatisfaction or worry) and forgotten about You. I repent of my complaining and fretfulness. Thank you for kindly leading me to repent of my sin. Holy Spirit, Keep helping me grow in godly desires and passions, through every season of life, that focus on Christ and His everlasting kingdom.



## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK TWELVE

#### 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

#### DISCUSSION

- How can knowledge become an idol? How does its idolatry affect the church community?
- Read *Romans 14:13-21*. What is the connection with this text?
- What does this passage teach us about loving our neighbor?
- Knowledge, conscience, and love are vital concepts for making decisions. How can you use these things to build one another up?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Discuss together - Have you ever known someone who was a “know-it-all” and always acted smart? How does it feel to be around such people? How does knowledge without love lead to pride? Why do you think it’s important for our faith to be rooted in love for God and others?
- Activity - “Don’t Be Puffed Up Mobile” - Materials needed: paper plates, construction paper or cardstock, puffy elements (ex: cotton balls, pom poms, puffed cereal, etc), scissors, glue or tape, string or yarn, hole punch. Instructions: 1) Decorate the paper with verses and captions reflecting the element of the verse “knowledge puffs up”. 2) Add the puffy elements to the paper by gluing or taping them down. 3) On the plate, add a paper or drawn heart and verses or captions to emphasize the “love builds up” verse. 4) Attach the plate to the paper with a string or yarn. Hang as decoration to remember that knowledge is somewhat useful, but God’s love is the most important thing.
- Discuss together - People around us today might not worship [idols](#) of wood or stone, but what are some things we place a lot of value in? How does the gospel of Jesus help us value His love more than the idols in our life?
- Can you think of something you might need to give up so that someone might know and live more like Jesus?
- Sing together - [1 Corinthians 8:6 \(feat. Joel Limpic\)](#)

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK THIRTEEN

#### 1 Corinthians 9:1-27

#### DISCUSSION

- Paul writes that he would rather endure anything than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ (v.12). What kinds of things might try to be obstacles to the gospel (i.e. remember chapter 8 – Christian liberty, sin, moral issues, relational conflict, anger, unforgiveness, etc.)
- Paul boasts in the gospel (vv. 15-18). What might it look like to boast in this way, rather than in yourself? Are you inclined to boast about your sacrifices for the church/gospel, or for what Jesus has done?
- A life that understands what matters, what will last, and who we belong to is a life marked by self-denial, BUT this could sound like punishment. How can self-denial actually be something that gives us joy?
- What places in your life do you need to consider more self-denial? Be specific.
- What places in your life are you excelling in self-denial, but not seeing it with joy?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Paul mentions that he has laid down his “rights” and has preached without asking for anything in return for the sake of the Gospel and mankind. What are Paul’s “rights” as mentioned in *1 Corinthians 9:1-14*? What are some things that we can surrender and lay down so that we can preach the Gospel to our friends, family and people around us?
- Paul loved sharing the Gospel so much that he says in *verse 18* that he would even do it for free! Can you imagine doing something you absolutely love and doing it for free? If you got the chance to play professional football or become an artist or actor would you do it for free? That is exactly how Paul felt as he shared the Gospel to those around him.
- Prayer - “Lord, give me the love that Paul had for the Gospel. I want to share it freely with others so that others may come to know you. Amen.”

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK FOURTEEN

1 Corinthians 10:1-22

#### DISCUSSION

- In this passage, Paul compares the Israelites' experience in the wilderness to the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Despite Israel being sustained by God's spiritual provision, the Lord still found displeasure in them. What lessons can we learn from their example, and how might we be following their disobedience?
- Read *verses 13 and 14*. Paul emphasizes the importance of learning from the mistakes of the Israelites to avoid falling into temptation. How does the Lord aid us in this pursuit of obedience? As a result of the Lord's advocacy, how does Paul instruct us to respond to idolatry?
- Next, read *verses 16-22*. What do we risk when we allow idolatry to take hold of our spirit? How does idolatry disrupt our communion with God?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Paul is warning the church of Corinth to not fall into idolatry by reminding them of what happened after Pharaoh freed Israel and they were led by Moses to the promised land. Idolatry means when we worship or place other things before God in our lives. Take time to reflect on your hearts as a family. Are there things that we sometimes place more importance in our lives instead of God?
- While Paul is warning the church of idolatry he is also reminding them of God's blessings as they got out of Egypt. He writes that they were "under the cloud and all passed through the sea...all were baptized...all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink..." (v.1-4). Activity: Grab a piece of paper and write down all the blessings that God has given you as a family and in your personal lives. Remind yourselves of the goodness and faithfulness of God. Pray and thank God for all his blessings everyday.
- Sing together - ["Goodness of God" by NRC Kids](#)

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK FIFTEEN

1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

#### DISCUSSION

- It can be very easy to think that because we have freedom in Christ, we can do whatever we want so long as it's not sinful. However, in *1 Corinthians 10:23* Paul said that not all things that we are allowed to do "build up". What message do you think Paul is trying to convey to us? Should we do all the things we are free to do just because we can? Why or why not?
- Read *1 Corinthians 10:24* and *Romans 15:2-3*. How well do you do in looking after your brothers and sisters in Christ? How have you helped them grow in their faith? If this has been an issue for you, what has been stopping you?
- Paul says that in everything we do, we must "do all to the glory of God" (*1 Corinthians 10:31*). What does "glorifying God" look like in your everyday life (at Storehouse, at home, at work, in the gym...etc)?
- In *1 Corinthians 10:33*, Paul is not saying that he's a "people pleaser". However, Paul is saying that he seeks the good of others for their salvation. How can you actively seek the spiritual well-being of those around you?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Discussion - Read verse 31 together, ask the following questions to your children:
  - What do you think this verse means?
  - How can we glorify God when we're doing such basic things as eating and drinking?
  - Is it really possible to glorify God no matter what we're doing? How?
- Discussion - As a family, go around the table and talk about some basic things we do everyday such as brushing your teeth, doing homework, going to work, or doing chores around the house. Then ask everyone who suggested an everyday activity "How can you glorify God while you're doing that?"
- Memory Verse - Follow the video in order to help children memorize *1 Corinthians 10:31* ["Whatever You Do" Hand Motions](#)

## 1 CORINTHIANS | DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



### DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE | WEEK SIXTEEN

1 Corinthians 11:2-16

#### DISCUSSION

- Why are differences between men and women important? Why do men and women need each other?
- In a culture of sexual perversion and engendered confusion. How can we be compassionate without compromising the truth of the gospel (i.e. we are sinners by nature and choice and Jesus reconciles sinners to God through the cross)?
- What does it mean that man is the glory of God and woman the glory of man?
- Consider next week's passage on communion (*1 Corinthians 11:17-34*). In a world of increasing inequalities, how is communion a humbling reality?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Paul keeps using the word "head" in verse 3. In this verse we know he is not talking about the head that we have on our shoulders. What does he refer to when he mentions "head" in verse 3? How does this verse describe the importance of having authorities, or people who lead us, in our lives? Mom? Dad? Why is it important that we listen to those who God has placed in our lives as our authority?
- Discussion - Write down any person who you value and see as authorities in your life? This can be teachers, pastor, family members, or even older siblings and go around the table to describe the importance it is to obey and listen to who God has placed in our lives as our head to guide and lead us as we navigate life.
- Discussion - If listening and obeying those who are our "head" is important whether that's for our safety or for our own good, how much more is God important in our lives as our main authority?