

## **First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

### **Assignment: 1 Corinthians Chapters 12 through 16**

#### Study Questions\*

- Who has been given spiritual gifts? Who are they from and for what purposes are they given? (12:7-10)
- The Corinthians seem to think that some gifts are better than others. Are they? Why or why not?
- Of the spiritual gifts listed in 12:7-10, have I received any? Which? How have I used it?
- Why is 12:12 such a good illustration of 12:13?
- Where have I heard chapter 13 before? How many times? Why is it so popular?
- What activities are useless without love? (13:1-3)
- According to Paul, what is love? What does he say it is not?
- How does love as described in chapter 13 compare to love as typically defined in our culture?
- What problem is Paul addressing in 14:1-5? Why might this have been a problem in the Corinthian church?
- What is the difference between speaking in tongues and prophesying, and in what sense is prophecy better than tongues?
- What are the values and limits of tongues? (14:4, 9, 13-19, 21-25)
- What was wrong with the Corinthian style of worship? What guidelines for worship is found in 14:26-33?
- Why does Paul seem to suppress women in the church? Compare 11:5 with 14:34. In chapter 11 women are apparently not silent. Is Paul being sarcastic? Were some women less well educated than others?
- What are the main points of the Gospel Paul received and passed on to the Corinthians? (15:3-8)
- Why does Paul go to such detail to list those who saw Jesus after He was resurrected? (15:5-8)
- What does Paul say would be true if there were no resurrection of the dead? (15:12-19)
- What are the characteristics of the resurrected body? (15:42-49)
- How effective is the analogy of the seed and types of bodies? (15:36-38)
- What kind of collection did Paul ask of the Corinthians? (16:1-4)
- After receiving this letter, how would the Corinthians feel about Paul's plan to visit?
- Overall, how did Paul feel about the Corinthians?
- What should the Corinthians imitate regarding Stephanas and the others (16:15-18)

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\* Questions courtesy of *Serendipity Bible for Groups* (NIV), fourth ed., 1998, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing)