

First Baptist Church of Progress Village
Wednesday Bible Study
1 Corinthians Chapter 1:1-16
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I. Greeting and Opening from Paul

1 Corinthians 1:1 (KJV) *Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,*

- A. **Paul** is the human author and an apostle of Jesus Christ with insights/input from some one else.

Acts 18:12-17 (KJV) *And when Gallio was the deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection with one accord against Paul, and brought him to the judgment seat, Saying, This fellow persuadeth men to worship God contrary to the law. And when Paul was now about to open his mouth, Gallio said unto the Jews, If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness, O ye Jews, reason would that I should bear with you: But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ye to it; for I will be no judge of such matters. And he drave them from the judgment seat. Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. And Gallio cared for none of those things.*

- B. **Sosthenes** was **chief** of the synagogue and had been persuaded and converted by Paul.

The insights and inputs from both Paul and Sosthenes gave the readers of this letter **familiarity** and depth of **commitment**.

1 Corinthians 1:2 (KJV) *Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:*

- C. This letter has **specific** application and **universal** guidance for all in every place that believe in Jesus.

This letter is also written for **FBCOPV!**

1 Corinthians 1:3 (KJV) *Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.*

- D. This letter has human authors, with the **divine** authority of the God head.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT2) *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.*

1 Corinthians 1:4 (KJV) *I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;*

E. God's **grace** is a very present gift for believers today.

1 Corinthians 1:5-6 (KJV) *That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:*

F. The **evidence** of God's grace is in **everything** we see, speak, know, and do.

1 Corinthians 1:7 (KJV) *So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

G. Believers have all we **need** through the Holy Spirit while we wait for Jesus to return.

1 Corinthians 1:8-9 (KJV) *Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*

H. God guarantees our **destination** so we don't need to stress the **journey**. God will not Fail!

1 Corinthians 1:10-16 (NLT2) *I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. For some members of Chloe's household have told me about your quarrels, my dear brothers and sisters. Some of you are saying, "I am a follower of Paul." Others are saying, "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Peter," or "I follow only Christ." Has Christ been divided into factions? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not! I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, for now no one can say they were baptized in my name. (Oh yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas, but I don't remember baptizing anyone else.)*

I. **Division** among our people is **deadly**.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Clique	Small Group
Exclusivity	Inclusivity
Status-Driven	Interest-Based
Restrictive	Flexible
Negative	Supportive
Protect Power	Protect People

Next Week, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 and Chapter 2 – God's Wisdom