

# Major Themes of 1 Corinthians

- **Sanctification in Christ**
  - **1:2** 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:
  - **1:30** But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and **sanctification**, and redemption:
  - **6:9-11** Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are **sanctified**, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.
- **God is Faithful**
  - **1:9** **God is faithful**, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
  - **10:13** There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but **God is faithful**, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.
- **The Gospel**
  - **Priority of Preaching the Gospel**
    - **1:17,21** For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the **gospel**: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect...21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.
  - **Saving Power of the Gospel**
    - **4:15** For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the **gospel**.
  - **Servants Heart in Preaching the Gospel**
    - **9:12,16,18-19** If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the **gospel** of Christ...16 For though I preach the **gospel**, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the **gospel**!...18 What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the **gospel**, I may make the **gospel** of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the **gospel**. 19 ¶ For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.
  - **Defining the Gospel**
    - **15:1-4** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the **gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
- **The Power of God**
  - **The Preaching of the Cross is the Power of God**
    - **1:18** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the **power of God**.
  - **Christ is the Power of God**
    - **1:24** But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the **power** of God, and the wisdom of God.
  - **The Power of God is Demonstrated in Preaching**
    - **2:4** And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of **power**:
  - **The Power of God is the Proper Foundation for Our Faith**
    - **2:5** That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the **power of God**.
  - **The Kingdom of God is Seen in the Power of God**
    - **4:19-20** But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the **power**. 20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in **power**.
  - **The Power of God is the Authority in Church Discipline**
    - **5:4** In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the **power** of our Lord Jesus Christ,
  - **The Power of God is the Agent for the Resurrection**
    - **6:14** And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by **his own power**.
    - **15:43** It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in **power**:

- **Edification**
  - Agape Love Edifies
    - **8:1** Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity **edifieth**.
  - Edification is Important
    - **10:23** All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things **edify** not.
  - Excel to the Edifying of the Church
    - **14:3,5,12,26** But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to **edification**, and exhortation, and comfort...**5** I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive **edifying**...**12** Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the **edifying** of the church...**26** How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto **edifying**.
  
- **The Holy Spirit**
  - The Holy Spirit is the Key Aid in Preaching
    - **2:4** And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the **Spirit** and of power:
  - The Omniscience of the Holy Spirit
    - **2:10-11** But God hath revealed them unto us by his **Spirit**: for the **Spirit** searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. **11** For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the **Spirit** of God.
  - The Holy Spirit as the Divine Teacher
    - **2:12-13** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the **spirit** which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. **13** Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the **Holy Ghost** teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
  - The Holy Spirit Indwells Believers
    - **3:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the **Spirit** of God dwelleth in you?
    - **6:19** What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the **Holy Ghost** which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
  - The Holy Spirit is Key to Salvation
    - **6:11** And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the **Spirit** of our God.
  - The Holy Spirit Directs Believers to a Proper Understanding of Jesus as Lord
    - **12:3** Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the **Spirit** of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the **Holy Ghost**.
  - The Holy Spirit Disperses the Gifts of the Spirit
    - **12:11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame **Spirit**, dividing to every man severally as he will.
  - The Holy Spirit is Unifying
    - **12:13** For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one **Spirit**.
  
- **The Faith (Your Belief)**
  - Your Faith Ought to Stand in the Power of God
    - **2:5** That your **faith** should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
  - The Doctrine of the Resurrection is Key to Your Faith
    - **15:14,17** And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your **faith** is also vain...**17** And if Christ be not raised, your **faith** is vain; ye are yet in your sins.
  - You Ought to Stand Fast in the Faith
    - **16:13** Watch ye, stand fast in the **faith**, quit you like men, be strong.
  
- **Flee!**
  - Fornication (Sexual Immorality, any perversion of God's original design for sexuality)
    - **6:18** **Flee** fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.
  - Idolatry
    - **10:14** Wherefore, my dearly beloved, **flee** from idolatry.

- **Love**

- There are three major types of affections in Greek described by our English word “love”:
  - Eros – Passion Driven Affection (found in the early Greek translation of the Old Testament - Prov. 7:18)
  - Phileo – Relationship Driven Affection
  - Agape – Commitment Driven Affection
- Agape Love in 1 Corinthians (also translated “charity”)
  - 1Co 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that **love** him.
  - 1Co 4:21 What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in **love**, and in the spirit of meekness?
  - 1Co 8:1 Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but **charity** edifieth.
  - 1Co 8:3 But if any man **love** God, the same is known of him.
  - 1Co 13 (9x’s)
    - Vs. 1-3 The Value of Agape Love
    - Vs. 4-7 The Description of Agape Love
    - Vs. 8-13 The Permanence of Agape Love
  - 1Co 14:1 Follow after **charity**, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.
  - 1Co 16:14 Let all your things be done with **charity**.
  - 1Co 16:24 My **love** be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.
- Phileo Love in 1 Corinthians
  - 1Co 16:22 If any man **love** not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.

- **Christ Coming Again**

- 1:7-8 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the **coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord **come**, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.
- 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he **come**.
- 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at his **coming**.
- 16:22 If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema **Maranatha**.

- **Reaching the Lost**

- 9:19-23 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, **that I might gain the more**. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, **that I might by all means save some**. 23 And this I do for the gospel’s sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.
- 10: 33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, **that they may be saved**.

- **Glory**

- 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him **glory** in the Lord.
- 3:21 Therefore let no man **glory** in men. For all things are yours;
- 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the **glory** of God.

- **Grace**

- 1:3 **Grace** be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1:4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the **grace** of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;
- 3:10 According to the **grace** of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.
- 10:30 For if I by **grace** be a partaker, why am I evil spoken of for that for which I give thanks?
- 15:10 But by the **grace** of God I am what I am: and his **grace** which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the **grace** of God which was with me.
- 16:23 The **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

# Major Issues Confronted by Paul

- Strife and Divisions (1:10-13)
- Immaturity and Carnality (3:1-4)
- The Exaltation of Men (4:1-8)
- The Tolerance of Sin – Specifically Sexual Immorality (4:18-5:2)
- Ungodly Conflict Resolutions (6:1-8)
- Sexual Immorality (6:15-16)
- Disregard for Paul's Apostolic Authority (9:1-2)
- Idolatry (10:20-22)
- Misuse of the Lord's Supper (11:17-22)
- Wrong Perception and Practice of Certain Spiritual Gifts (14:1-11)
- The False Teaching that there is No Resurrection (15:12-19)