

Sermon Notes



1 Corinthians 1: 1-9

Jeremiah 29:5-7

“Build houses ...plant gardens ...Take wives ...multiply there, ...seek the welfare of the city, and pray to the Lord on its behalf...”

The Church at Corinth

Acts 18:9b-10

“Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.”

Big Idea: In Christ, you are Called and Kept by God

I. You are Called by God (v.1-2)

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

- A. Spiritual Purpose
- B. Spiritual Oneness

II. You are Enriched by God (v. 3-7)

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus

Grace and Guilt don't go together!

Hebrews 10:22

"...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

II. You are Enriched by God (v. 3-7)

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus,

1. Grace and Guilt don't go together!
2. Grace and Obligation can't coexist.
3. Grace and Human merit don't mix.

II. You are Enriched by God (v. 3-7)

5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— 6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

III. You are Sustained by God (v.8-9)

8 who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Surrender to Love- Benner

"The essence of spirituality is a journey of transformation.

We are already what we seek and where we long to arrive- specifically in God.

Once we realize this, the nature of the journey reveals itself to be more one of awakening than accomplishment, more one of spiritual awareness than spiritual achievement."

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Study Guide



1 Corinthians 1: 1-9

1. Corinth was an influential city, filled with philosophy, money, sex, and every human enticement. Discuss our tendency to want to use the city (i.e. Corinth) for money, sex and control, versus the 'call' of God to "...seek the welfare of the city and pray to the Lord on its behalf." (Jer. 29:7).

How can we keep our mindset on the mission of God rather than to just hunker down and wait till Jesus comes back? Discuss.

2. Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-2. Discuss our tendency to say, "What I do doesn't matter." What do you think God has 'called' you to? What is your spiritual gift?

What does it mean to you that you have been given the holy status of 'sainthood' together with all the believers?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 1:3-7. Discuss the aspects of being enriched in Christ.

- a. Grace- undeserved favor of God.
- b. Peace- all unanswered questions are already answered in Christ.
- c. Enriched in all speech...(v.5)
- d. Enriched in all knowledge...(v.5)
- e. Not lacking any gift...(v.7)

How do these assets affect the way you live? Share examples of how you have seen God change your life or the life of another believer through these gifts from God.

4. Read 1 Corinthians 1:8-9. Have you ever looked into the future and wondered whether you are going to make it? What does it mean to you that God will “sustain you to the end, guiltless...”? How have you seen God be faithful to you in the past? What is He calling you to believe for your future? Discuss.

Application

Take time to read the entire text in silence and ask God to reveal to you a lie that needs to be corrected, or a step He wants you to take based on His word. Next, pray as a group over the aspects of the text. Pray for the city, pray for our purpose, pray against the sense that we don't matter, thank God for the way He enriches our lives (be specific), and thank God for His promise to sustain us.