

46-1Corinthians16-Transcript

0:57Well greetings brethren, and welcome to another Wednesday night Bible study.

1:02Hopefully I'm coming through loudly and clearly.

1:05Together we study the scriptures line upon line, and by doing that line upon line, we've actually come to the end of the first letter, the first letter to The Corinthian brethren.

1:20So I want to finish chapter 16 tonight, which will end the first epistle to the Corinthian brethren, and then I'd like to just give a book summary and then God willing,, next week I'd like us to have a live Q&A and believe Pastor Murray will be joining us and as we like to do, we'll just take your questions live in the moment, but I'd like to do it slightly differently next week.

1:48We've built a bit of a community here.

1:50You know, when I check the chat, I don't always have the chance to read the chats, but, but people talk to each other and know one another and look out for one another.

1:57And maybe we've never even met one another, so we'll start the summary next week, God willing, here on Rumble, and then I'll put in the chat the link for Zoom.

2:08So I'll close down Rumble and we'll hop over to Zoom and have a private.

2:12Community conversation about the scriptures.

2:15So I'll talk more about that at the end, but that will be, God willing, and a nice way for us to just build on the community that we have been developing over the years as we study the scriptures line upon line.

2:28Let me open with a word of prayer and then let me check the chat just to confirm that I am coming through clearly.

2:34Everything looks good on my end.

2:37let's make sure that it's working on your end.

2:40let's open with a word of prayer.

2:43Loving Heavenly Father, we pause to come before you to acknowledge what an incredible gift you have given to us.

2:52Through Christ our Savior, the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

2:58The scriptures.

3:00That have been just fought for and the struggle through the millennia, so that we could be the custodians of this knowledge today, at such a vital time in human history.

3:13We thank you so much for selecting us, handpicking us.

3:18And enabling us to not only understand this knowledge but to love you, to love Christ.

3:24And to love one another.

3:26Father, thank you so much.

3:27We thank you that we're now completing the first letter to the Corinthian brethren.

3:33thank you for the understanding that we've derived from it.

3:36We pray God that you'll bless our understanding, that you'll deepen our faith, and that you'll deepen our love for you.

3:42Christ in in one another.

3:44Thank you, Lord.

3:45Please bless our the final study now of this incredible book to the Corinthians chapter 16, deep in our understanding, Lord, we pray and ask in Jesus' name.

3:57Amen.

3:58 All right, very, very good.

4:00 Let me check now and confirm that everything that I've been saying has actually been coming through to you.

4:10 I just check the chart.

4:13 And I see a lot of that going on here.

4:17 Let's just go down.

4:18 Sounds back.

4:19 Thanks, Pastor Murray.

4:21 So.

4:21, Nate, thank you, brother Nate.

4:26 Looks like the sound is back and audio and video are good.

4:29 So I'm not sure what happened there, but I think that the audio and video are good.

4:33 Let me just quickly check who is here.

4:35 Sister Rose, first one in, well done.

4:38 Pastor Murray, very good.

4:40 I see some discussion about weather and Rose Petty is here as well.

4:46 And let's see, Brother Nate.

4:50 Welcome, welcome, welcome.

4:52 Nice to have you.

4:54 Oh, I'm seeing a new name here, Julie Goh.

4:56 I don't know Julie Goh.

4:57 I haven't seen that moniker before, that handle before.

5:00 Maybe it's somebody renamed, but welcome.

5:03 Nice to have you and Kay Feeder, I think that's Keith, I, I think Donna Banta.

5:10 And ja jars.

5:13 Very, very nice.

5:13 All the faithful regulars.

5:15 Nice to see you, Judy and Chuck.

5:18 Bruce Ellis, Carlotta.

5:21 Stephan, Stefan, Stefan, Stefan Sandy, nice to see you, Stephan and Sister Sandy.

5:30 Lovely to have you all the way from Lindsay, Ontario.

5:33 Jeff Flanek is here, JD is here, Sidfried is here.

5:37 Lisa Palmeier is here.

5:41 Nice, I know, Stephan and Sandy were with us last week and they just didn't log in, but they're logging in this week.

5:47 Rick 4 is here.

5:49 Very, very nice and majestic creation.

5:52 so welcome to all of you who have checked in and all of you who are with us, but are not able to check in.

6:00 Let's get into the summary for tonight.

6:04 well, actually, let's get into the final chapter and then we'll talk about the summary and then we'll talk about next week.

6:10 So let me share my screen.

6:13 And then we'll get into the study for tonight.

6:17I'll just pump up the Font.

6:22Let's just get rid of this one.

6:25And then let me make this bigger.

6:31Here we go.

6:32All right, so, I just wanted to just show you this.

6:35So we're in chapter 16 and he's wrapping up the letter.

6:41But remember, he didn't really start the letter until chapter 7 that they had written him.

6:47They had a series of questions, and he's replying to their questions.

6:51So just by way of partially review, it deals with a whole bunch of issues from chapters 1 to 6, and then finally in chapter 7, he answers, begins answering their question.

7:03Which he says now concerning the things wherever you wrote unto me, so he's going to start addressing their questions and the first one is something to do with marriage.

7:12And so it's in the archive if you miss that, he addresses this issue about a man not touching a woman.

7:19Then he they had questions about virgins now concerning virgins.

7:23Well, I don't have a commitment commandment from the Lord, but, but here's my judgment.

7:26So he's answering the question about virgins.

7:29In chapter 8, there was a question about meat sacrifice to idols.

7:34So now as touching things offered unto idols, and then he gives them some guidance on how to address that situation.

7:42Then in chapter 11, He deals with a new topic.

7:45Now, in this that I declare unto you, I praise you not to do with the Lord's Supper and how they were observing the Lord's Supper.

7:53So he addresses that.

7:54And then in chapter 12, now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I don't want you to be ignorant even though you think you know everything.

8:00You need to understand this, so then he addresses that topic.

8:04And then in chapter 15, there was, there was teaching about basically the fallacy of the resurrection.

8:11They didn't believe in the resurrection.

8:13And so he addresses.

8:16In chapter 15, this issue of the resurrection.

8:23Now, we come to the last chapter of the book.

8:29And it's concerning the collection for the saints, so they must have asked him a question about collection for the saints.

8:36And so now this is the final topic that he's addressing in response to their letter, and he says now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do the same in Corinth.

8:54So, so this is an issue.

8:55It's a big issue, and he's given some instructions to the churches in Galatia.

9:00They want to know about Cor Corinth, how can they help?

9:02He's saying do the same thing.

9:05And what is that?

9:06 Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

9:17 So normally, this is they're in that, they're in that count period.

9:21 Between the Passover and Pentecost or unleavened bread and Pentecost, and when we saw this phraseology earlier was the first of the Sabbath plural.

9:32 Well, this is not plural, this is singular.

9:34 It's just the first day of the week.

9:36 So this is, he's just saying, look, when I come.

9:39 I don't want to have to deal with these logistics.

9:41 I don't want anybody sort of scrambling.

9:43 I want you to be very methodical about this and the way to do it, don't do this on the Sabbath, but on the first day of the week, on Sundays, basically, take care of this so that when I come, we don't have to deal with this.

9:57 So that's the first thing, be very methodical and disciplined and intentional about it.

10:02, so lay by him in store, so build up your, your contribution as God has prospered you.

10:11 So I'm not going to tell you what to give.

10:13 Each of you know how God has prospered you and now you have brothers or saints that are in trouble.

10:20 Well, how about if they're blessed by how God has blessed you?

10:23 So, so use your own personal judgment based on how God has blessed you, that there be no gatherings when I come.

10:31 So, so when he comes, he doesn't want to be distracted.

10:36 He wants to come, he wants to teach.

10:39 He wants the fellowship.

10:40 There's a lot going on.

10:41 Remember in chapter at the end of chapter 11, he said like, look, make sure you wait for one another, tarry for one another, look after one another, and the rest of this chaos that's going on in Corinth, I'll set that in order when I come.

10:56 So, so when he comes, he doesn't want to have to deal with logistics and be distracted by administrivia.

11:02 So take care of all of that.

11:04 When I come, it's, it's solid teaching and and fellowship and focus.

11:10 So I don't, I don't want to deal with this when I come.

11:13 Now look in Romans 15 where we see a similar experience.

11:19 Whenever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you speaking to the Romans, for I trust to see you in my journey and to be brought on my way there by you.

11:30 So Paul Paul is saying, look, I'm going to pass through Rome on my journey into Spain, and I expect you to finance my trip.

11:40 This, this is, this is your obligation.

11:42 I'll come, I'll collect the tithes, and that's going to make sure that I'm able to carry on in my journey.

11:48 If first I be somewhat filled with your company, I will spend some time in in Rome and fellowship with you and then you'll send me on my way to Spain.

11:58 But now I'm on my way to Jerusalem to minister unto the saints.

12:04For it has pleased them of Macedonia and Achaea to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

12:13So Macedonia, we know from the letter to Philippi, this was a very, very supportive congregation, and then Corinth is in the province of Achaea.

12:25So he, he, he's in correspondence with Corin Corinthians, and he knows they're supportive.

12:31He knows the Macedonians are supportive, and now he's also asking for the Romans to support the brethren in Jerusalem.

12:38Now, he says, speaking of.

12:42Macedonia and AAA.

12:45It has pleased them truly.

12:48And their debtors they are.

12:52So, the Corinthians and the Macedonians are really happy to contribute, and they see themselves as debtors to the brethren in Jerusalem.

13:07And then Paul says this.

13:09So yes, they are debtors, for if the Gentiles have been made partakers of the spiritual things of the brethren in Jerusalem, the Jews.

13:21Then their duty, the duty of the Gentiles, is also to minister unto the Jews in carnal things.

13:29So the Jews have blessed the Gentiles, you know, Paul says to the Gentiles, yeah, we all have knowledge, but that knowledge that the Corinthian Gentiles have, they got it from the Jews.

13:40And so Paul is saying the Corinthians are in debt.

13:46To the Jews in Jerusalem.

13:48Because they've been made partakers of spiritual things, and since they're partakers of spiritual things, it's their duty to minister to the Jews who are now in trouble in carnal things, and it's sort of similar to what he's saying as a minister.

14:03I'm going to pass through, and when I pass through, I expect you to finance my journey to Spain.

14:11But I'm gonna go through Jerusalem.

14:13So this this this notion, which is a Torah principle of how the economy of God works, that you've been blessed by spiritual things, you should bless with physical things, the brethren in Jerusalem.

14:27When therefore I have performed this, that is given the contribution, and I've sealed to them this fruit, so this blessing, this, this, they're blessing the Jews when the Jews are blessed by them in these carnal things, it's, it's sealing their, their works.

14:42This is fruit that God is going to give them credit for.

14:46Then I will come by you into Spain.

14:50So he is explaining how he is going to do this journey.

14:54And when I come, Whomsoever you shall approve, oh sorry, I'm going back to so that was the Romans, now I'm back to the Corinthians.

15:02So you see how he's collecting from the churches to bless the the Jews in Jerusalem, the Jewish Christians.

15:09Now Back to 1 Corinthians 16, so he is saying he is going to come to them, but he wants them to sort everything out so he doesn't have to deal with logistics, and he says, and when I

come, whoever you shall approve by your letters, then will I send to bring your contributions onto Jerusalem.

15:33 So this is a big, a big responsibility.

15:37 There might be a lot of money involved here and so it's similar in Act 6 when they say seek out seven men of honest report.

15:45 You guys decide Who can be trusted with this?

15:49 Who's going to be responsible?

15:51 They're not going to get distracted.

15:53 They're not going to pill for anything.

15:55 They're gonna be just on on task and make sure that this money gets to the brethren in Jerusalem.

16:01 So you choose amongst yourselves.

16:03 I'm not going to choose, you choose, you know, you know each other.

16:06 And if it's appropriate that I go also, they shall go with me.

16:12 So depending on the timing, if it all works out, we'll travel together.

16:17 Now, I will come unto you when I shall pass through Macedonia, for I do pass through Macedonia and he needs to pass through Macedonia to pick up their contribution as well.

16:30 And let's just see this in Acts 19, he says, and, and this may be just a little ahead previous, but let's just see this Acts 19 I'll tie it back in.

16:41 He says so, so mightily grew the word of God and prevailed after these things were ended.

16:48 Paul purposed in his spirit.

16:50 When he had passed through Macedonia and Achaëa, that's where Corinthians, Corinthians are, to go to Jerusalem, saying, after I have been there, I must also see Rome.

17:01 So this is, and then after he goes to Rome, he wants to get to Spain.

17:04 So we can see this, these travel plans all coming together in the different books and I just wanted to see here, so I wanted to show you that, but also just just mark that in verse 20 that the word of God just grew.

17:17 And it prevailed and Paul was very successful in preaching.

17:21 He started a church in Corinth.

17:23 He's priest of the Philippians are in Macedonia.

17:26 He's just been very, very successful in his ministry.

17:30 Back to 1 Corinthians 16 and verse 6.

17:38 And it may be That I will abide.

17:41 I'll stay there.

17:42 So I'm definitely going to come and visit you guys in Corinth.

17:45 I'm just not sure exactly when I'll get there, but I'm coming.

17:48 And if all the timing works out, whoever you're sending to Jerusalem, maybe I'll travel with them, but I am going to come to visit you, and it may be that I will abide.

17:58 Yeah, and and winter with you.

18:00 So just depending on the timing, I may stay for several months.

18:04 I may stay for 6 months, we'll see.

18:07 So he's just trying to work out his travel schedule.

18:10 It may be that I'll I'll stay with you, yes, and winter with you.

18:13 That you may bring me on my journey wherever I go.

18:18 So if I'm there and I'm wintering with you, you're collecting the tithes and the offerings, by the time it's time for me to leave, I'm going to have a tidy sum to go on with my journey.

18:29 For I will not see you now, by the way, but I, I trust to stay with you a while if the Lord permits.

18:38 So I can, I can't come now, but I am coming, and when I come, I'm gonna stay with you for a while according to God's will.

18:45 But right now I'm gonna be staying at Ephesus Ephesus until Pentecost, so he's in that period of the count.

18:53 And he's he's when he gets, he's trying to get to Ephesus for Pentecost, and he wants to stay, he wants to spend some time with the Ephesian brethren.

19:05 And why This is where I wanted you to take note earlier of Acts when he was in Macedonia, how just effective the gospel was.

19:14 And so here in verse 9, he's saying to the Corinthians, the reason I'm going to stay at Ephesus until Pentecost, and remember Ephesus was full of witchcraft.

19:24 And he says, for a great door and effectual has been opened unto me.

19:30 So, so he just sees God working with him.

19:34 And opening these doors, and he recognizes there's an open door in Ephesus, and he has to stay there and preach there and build up the church there because of this great and effectual, like he's really being effective there, that's been opened unto him, and then he adds this, and there are many adversaries.

19:54 Somehow, Adversaries are always there.

19:57 When we're trying to do the work of God, there are always critics.

20:01 There are always adversaries.

20:02 There are always people who are trying to undermine and distract, and Paul's just saying there's this open door.

20:09 I don't care about these adversaries.

20:11 I'm going to do the work of God.

20:13 And later we will, we saw in Chapter 15, just just last week or the week before we were 3 weeks in chapter 15, but I think it was maybe 2 weeks ago that he says, hey, you know, if I've struggled with wild animals and lions at at Ephesus, and then, you know, suffered all these, all these persecutions, if in this life only, we have hope in Christ, we are all men most miserable.

20:41 So Paul sees, he's not, he's not blind, he sees the adversarial nature of of preaching the gospel.

20:48 He's he's just focused.

20:52 Now in Acts 14, just to see the correspondence here, verse 27, and when they were come and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

21:09 So that's what Paul is meaning when he says here that a great door and effectual is opened unto Him.

21:16 You've got all these people steeped into witchcraft and they're hearing the gospel message.

21:21 And, and, and he's making converts, so we see that in Acts that this is what he means when he says a door of faith has been opened unto the Gentiles.

21:32 Back to chapter 16 and verse 10.

21:35 Now if Timothy comes, See that he may be with you without fear.

21:47It begs the question.

21:50What kind of congregation is this?

21:53That he wants to send his minister to this congregation and he's asking them.

22:01Can I, can I send him to you?

22:03And, and so he doesn't have to be anxious and nervous about visiting you.

22:08Instead of, instead of saying now if Timothy comes to see you, I know that he's going to be well looked after.

22:15I know that he's gonna be encouraged and strengthened and edified, and that, that if I, if he's going to another congregation after you, he's going to be fortified by his visit to you.

22:26That's not what Paul says.

22:28He says, I want to send this faithful assistant that I have that I'm training.

22:33And I want to send them to you, but you guys are so chaotic.

22:37You're so divisive.

22:40You're so carnal.

22:42Could I please ask you a favor?

22:45That you don't discourage my minister.

22:47I send my minister to visit your congregation, and you need, you need, obviously you need a minister to go there.

22:53But can, can you do me a favor?

22:55Can he come to you without fear?

22:57Wow, just that line alone is, you know, mind officially blown.

23:03Now if Timothy comes, see that he may be with you without fear, please.

23:08For he works the work of the Lord, as I also do.

23:11What an endorsement.

23:12Like in that one verse, you have the, the strongest of endorsements for Timothy.

23:19And I, and I think the strongest of condemnation.

23:23For the Corinthian brethren Like, you need a minister to visit you.

23:28Can, can he do it and not have grief?

23:31And here, so he says, He's, he's, he's faithful.

23:35He does the work of the Lord as I do.

23:37Please don't discourage him.

23:39He says to Timothy, so he's gonna send Timothy to the Corinthians, but he's, he's mentoring Timothy.

23:45And he says to this young minister, Let no man despise your youth.

23:50Don't second guess yourself.

23:52You're doing the work of the Lord.

23:53You have the Holy Spirit.

23:54You are gifted into this role.

23:58Don't allow anybody to despise you.

24:00But be you an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in charity, in spirit, and faith in purity.

24:08So just be on task.

24:10Don't be discouraged.

24:11Be an example and don't let them despise you.

24:13 Don't let them discourage you.

24:15 But he says now to the Corinthian brethren, In verse 11, let no man therefore despise him.

24:23 So he says to Timothy, Don't let anybody despise you.

24:26 But now he's sort of preparing the, the, the congregation for Timothy's arrival, and he's saying he does the work of the Lord.

24:31 Don't despise him.

24:32 He's young, but don't despise him, and, and allow him to visit you without fear and anxiety and nervousness.

24:39 Let no man therefore despise him.

24:42 But conduct him forth in peace.

24:44 Allow him to do his ministry in peace.

24:46 Let him come to you.

24:47 Let him visit your congregation and leave edified.

24:52 And it's like, wow, what a, what a wonderful visit.

24:54 I could I could actually let my hair down and relax and just enjoy the love and the peace in this congregation.

25:01 Let no man therefore despise him, but conduct him forth in peace, that he may come unto me, for I look for him with the brethren.

25:09 So Timothy is on his way to Paul, but Paul is saying, hey, stop, visit the Corinthians, minister to the Corinthians, and then they'll send you on your way to me.

25:21 And and not only Paul but the brethren are looking forward to meeting up with Timothy.

25:27 No, that's Timothy.

25:28 As touching our brother Apollos, and we know that Apollos was a mighty preacher in the word of God, and in fact many in Corinth were saying, I'm of Apollo.

25:39 He's such a powerful preacher and charismatic.

25:42 I was touching our brother Apollo.

25:43 So I told you about Timothy.

25:44 Now let's talk about Apollo.

25:46 I really desired him to come unto you.

25:50 With the brethren, so there's some brethren that are coming to you.

25:54 I wanted Apollo to go with them so that he could minister to you, but his will was not at all to come at this time.

26:03 It's like, oh, visit Corinth?

26:05 No thank you, not at this time.

26:08 So it seems to me, and maybe I'm reading between the lines here, that Apollo was well aware of the division and the just the, the chaos.

26:19 And the the burden that the Corinthians were and and maybe even the opposition that he would face there, some are so intensely for him, meaning some perhaps are very intensely against him.

26:31 And he just said, no thanks.

26:34 Paul Paul greatly desired.

26:37 He was pleading with Apo, Please, please, you know, just I can't get there in time.

26:41 There's a lot going on.

26:43 You know, you're a very strong elder.

26:45 Could you go there?

26:46 And all of Paul's pleading and think of Paul's authority in the church, and Paul says, no thank you, not Corinth, not at this time.

26:55 So his will was not at all at this time.

26:58 Like they need to settle down first or just his travel schedule, but he will come when he shall have a shall have convenient time.

27:07 So he's saying I'm not saying no, I'm just saying not yet.

27:11 I want to do some other things first, but it's interesting.

27:13 It just shows really here that Despite Paul's authority in the Church of God, he doesn't have the authority to say to Apollo, just cancel your plans, and I need you to go to Corinth.

27:29 He's really pleading with Apollo, and Apollo is saying no, not at this time.

27:34 So interesting dynamic between these men.

27:37 And perhaps again I'm reading between the lines, but there's a lot going on in Corinth as we've been reading through these 15 and now 16 chapters.

27:48 And even you know, Paul is saying, OK, Timothy's coming.

27:51 Can you, can you not give him a hard time?

27:54 So there's some dynamic in this dysfunctional church that perhaps is part of the reason why Apollo is saying no thank you, not at this time.

28:02 And, and, and it sort of ties into Hebrews 13:17, where all of us as congregants would do well to take this under advisement.

28:14 Obey them, that is the ministers that have the rule over you, they're shepherds, and submit yourselves.

28:21 There there's, there's a, there's a way that a healthy church functions much like the human body.

28:27 It's one body and it all works together, but it takes direction from the head.

28:32 Jesus Christ is the head, and he's appointed under shepherds to help to guide the body.

28:38 And you can see a very dysfunctional church and dysfunctional organization when it's chaotic.

28:46 Because then the Holy Spirit cannot actually function properly.

28:50 It's almost like somebody is having a seizure, when, when, when the Church of God is chaotic.

28:57 So this is the way it should be.

29:00 You obey them and and you submit yourselves.

29:02 You, you acknowledge the structure within God's body.

29:07 Why would you do this?

29:08 Why would you submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls.

29:13 And that's that's the mark of a shepherd.

29:16 They really truly watch for your souls.

29:18 They really care.

29:20 You know, Paul says all the persecutions, everything that he faces, and he just itemized all of his persecutions, and then he says, and besides all of this, The care of all these churches.

29:31 He was a real shepherd.

29:34 And, and what was going on in each of these individual congregations, it was on his mind constantly.

29:39It was causing him stress and and great pain and concern.

29:43So in addition to all the persecutions.

29:46They watch for your souls as they that must give account.

29:52And then this is something that we really need to understand when a man is ordained into the office of an elder, it's not a free ride.

30:00He has to, he's gonna stand before Jesus Christ and he's going to give an account.

30:05And so it's very different.

30:08When, and this is why, and I've got a flak over this, but I've said, you know, when a man is speaking, if he's an elder, say that he's an elder, introduce him as an elder.

30:17I want to know this as an elder versus if it's a an approved speaker.

30:22I want to know the difference.

30:25Because an approved speaker is is doing the church a favor.

30:27He's, he's volunteering, he's taking of his time, and he's he's edifying the brethren, and that is well appreciated.

30:34But an elder who speaks.

30:37is on a different level, because he's gonna stand before Christ and give an account for the welfare of his flock.

30:47Very, very different.

30:49And I think we need to understand this.

30:51So they're going to have to give an account.

30:54But support them in a way that they can fulfill their responsibility with joy, that they may do it with joy.

31:03There's a way that we can have a flock that we look after, and I feel very privileged personally to have a flock that we look after.

31:11That's a source of joy, not heartache, not grief.

31:15The Corinthian brethren were a source of grief.

31:18Paul is sending Timothy, and he said, can you do me a favor and not cause him grief.

31:23That they may do it with joy and not with grief, and maybe this is why Apoulist just said no thanks, not at this time.

31:31Because that's unprofitable for you and and you you're gonna have people say like I've had enough, I can't do this.

31:37I'm checking out.

31:38I give up.

31:40So how is that profitable for you if you if we discourage the shepherds?

31:46And again I'm reading a bit between the lines, but not that much.

31:49We've we've been together 15 now 16 chapters, a lot of problems in this congregation.

31:56So now he, so that's the final topic.

31:59They had asked him about the the contributions, so he answers that now he's concluding the letter.

32:06Watch you.

32:08Stand fast in the faith, and so we have our podcast keeping watch, and that's that's just something we've got to be very, very vigilant and we keep watch so that we can stand fast in the faith.

32:21Quit you like men, be mature, have some backbone.

32:26 Be committed And then that's another thing altogether, the level of commitment.
32:32 We have been blessed so much with so much understanding.
32:35 We had better be committed.
32:38 We, we had better just understand how to whom much is given, much is expected, and have we ever been given much, especially in such a time as this.
32:49 Watch you stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, behave like men, have backbone and be strong.
32:56 So this is, this, this is his message as he's concluding his letter.
33:00 This is what's on his mind that the brethren must be strong in the faith.
33:04 Then he says this, Let all your things be done with charity.
33:08 So, you know, tarry for one another when it comes to the Lord's supper, look after one another, recognize each other's gifts.
33:17 When I come, I'm gonna set the rest in order, but understand that all of what you do must be motivated by agape.
33:25 So focus on putting that agape in place and it's amazing everything else is going to fall into place.
33:31 So let all your things be done with agape.
33:34 This is a church, a congregation he's speaking to that was motivated by envy and competition.
33:40 I'm begging you, brethren.
33:42 You know the house of Stephanus.
33:45 That it is the first fruits of Achaia.
33:48 So when he went into Achaia, the province of Achaia in Corinthia city, preaching, Stephanus was his first convert.
33:58 So he refers to the house of Stephanus as the first fruits of Achaia, that's where the gospel first took hold.
34:07 So what else do we know about Stephanus?
34:10 So this is a local leader in in Corinth.
34:14 You know the house of Stephanus.
34:17 That it is the first fruits of Achaia.
34:20 And that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints.
34:26 So they're just this is commitment.
34:29 Paul describes the level of commitment here as addiction.
34:33 They just can't get enough of serving the saints.
34:37 And Paul is holding him up as a model for the rest of the brethren.
34:42 So he says in verse 14, do everything with agape.
34:47 And throughout the letter, and certainly when we get into the second letter, there are some real challenges with the teachers, the local teachers.
34:57 They're not operating from the right spirit.
35:00 And in that context, Paul is lifting up Stephanus.
35:05 And it's almost like condemnation by by silence.
35:09 So all these other teachers, he doesn't mention them.
35:13 You mentioned Stephanus in the household of Stephanus.
35:16 So that sort of puts them for the Corinthian brethren and puts the other teachers in context.

35:22the household of Stephanus is addicted.

35:28To serving the saints.

35:30And here in chapter one, when he opened the letter, he makes it clear because Stephanus was the first fruits, and I baptized also the household of Stephanus.

35:40Besides, I know not whether I baptized any others.

35:43He was making the argument back then that he's glad that he hadn't baptized many in Corinth because of this competitive, divisive spirit.

35:51But he does acknowledge that when he first went, Stephanus, the household of Stephanus are the first fruits, and he had baptized that household.

35:59He wasn't sure if he had baptized anybody else, but he's glad that he didn't do a wholesale baptism tour because then that would have just created a cult following around Paul.

36:10So Stephanus is very, very faithful man.

36:13His household was very faithful, and he holds up Stephanus as an example and doesn't say anything about the other teachers.

36:21He does command Timothy, who is on his way.

36:251 Corinthians 16 and 16.

36:29That you submit yourselves unto such.

36:32So clearly Stephanus is a leader, a local leader.

36:35There are other leaders, submit yourself unto this one, and unto men that have this type of character that you see their fruits.

36:44That you submit yourselves into such and to everyone that helps with us and labors.

36:51So again, there's no fruit without labor.

36:54So, so look for those who are laboring with us, look at their fruit, and then submit yourselves to them.

37:01Those that are Preaching this divisive spirit and gospel, they're not gonna have fruit because they're not gonna have the works.

37:10In fact, the Holy Spirit doesn't enable them or equip them to do the work.

37:17I am glad of the coming of Stephanus and Fortunatus and Acaus.

37:24For that which was lacking on your part, they have supplied, so they've addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints.

37:32Corinth wasn't supporting Paul the way they could have.

37:35Paul had to look after himself, but here these brethren were able to support Paul and make up for the lack of the Corinthian brethren.

37:45For they have refreshed my spirit and yours, right?

37:48By encouraging Paul, Paul could encourage the Corinthians.

37:52So they have refreshed my spirit and yours.

37:55Therefore acknowledge you them that are such.

37:58And again reading between the lines, do not acknowledge those that are not such.

38:04Acknowledge them that are such.

38:06There is a problem in Corinth and the problem is coming from the teachings, the doctrine, and that doctrine is coming from teachers.

38:13And good doctrine is coming from good teachers.

38:17So now he wraps up.

38:19The churches of Asia salute you, so he's in the province of Asia.

38:22 We call that Turkey today.

38:25 Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord.

38:28 Remember they pulled Apollo aside and taught him a more perfect way, so very, very faithful brethren.

38:35 Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord with the church that is in their house, and we, in chapter 14 of Corinthians we talked about.

38:45, you know, women must keep silence.

38:48 Well, clearly Priscilla wasn't keeping silence and the church is in her, the church is in her home, so she's working alongside her husband.

38:55 She taught, Apollo with her husband.

38:58 So if you, if you missed that, that's chapter 14.

39:01 We need to have an appropriate healthy view of the role of women in God's church.

39:09 Verse 2.

39:10 All the brethren greet you.

39:13 Greet one another with a holy kiss.

39:15 So it's because of expanding their, their, their, their purview, their, their understanding their aperture, it's not just what's happening in Corinth.

39:24 You're part of something much, much bigger.

39:27 And all the brethren in Asia are sending their love and their greetings to you.

39:31 Make sure you love one another and greet one another with a holy kiss.

39:34 There's a real intimacy and familiarity that brethren have for one another.

39:41 And so we need to have that here in this modern Western world.

39:45 We can sometimes be very formal and maybe a bit distant with one another.

39:50 We shouldn't be, we should, when we come together, we should be very, very clear.

39:53 People should, should come away from visiting us.

39:57 In fact, I had a comment from a visitor just recently.

40:00 It looks like the brethren love to spend time with one another.

40:03 Indeed we do.

40:05 And so that's that's what we want to build up that, that culture.

40:09 The salutation of me, Paul, with my own hand.

40:13 So he's making a point here that he's signing the letter himself.

40:17 We know he had some eye trouble and we know that he didn't necessarily write the whole letter.

40:23 I forget the name of the scribe.

40:25 I think they call it an immensuensis, something like that.

40:28 I'm mispronouncing it, but something like immensuensis, which is somebody who I will dictate the letter, it's my letter.

40:35 I'm, I'm dictating it, but it's like a secretary.

40:38 And that person will then handwrite my letter as I'm dictating it, but at the end I'll sign it.

40:44 So you know that it actually came from me and so Paul is signing the letter to say that this, this is my letter and I'm signing it with my own hand.

40:54 Then he says this again, remember.

40:57 There's a lot of division in cards.

41:00 A policy to say, I'm not gonna go there right now.

41:03He's sending Timothy and he's asking them, please don't, don't rough him up when he comes.

41:08You, you're a Church of God.

41:09Can you accept him and, and have, have him experience a bit of peace and love with you.

41:13, and then he says, you know, the household of Stephanus and Fortunatus and Caius, these men are men you need to pay attention to.

41:23So it begs the question, what about the other teachers that he doesn't even mention?

41:28Well, here he, in a way mentions them.

41:31You got to look at their fruit.

41:33He says if any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.

41:42Like just cut him off.

41:46His anathema.

41:48Just Has nothing to do with us.

41:52In fact, let me just get the exact definition of this.

41:56A cursed.

41:57So he is a cursed.

42:01By by the Lord himself.

42:03So, if, if you don't love the Lord Jesus Christ, and, and some people don't understand.

42:10That the central role of Jesus Christ in the gospel.

42:15And I know historically the the the the churches of God were very, very focused on the Father.

42:22So I, I didn't grow up with Christianity.

42:25I came into Christianity as an as an adult.

42:27I was forced to attend church a few times as a kid and we hated it and I probably that lasted, I don't know, 6 months, maybe a year at the most, but we finally got out of that.

42:38I think we made such a fuss of how much we didn't, we didn't enjoy it.

42:43But I didn't understand the Bible.

42:45Until I was an adult in my early twenties.

42:49And I came, my, my introduction to the Bible was really the Church of God.

42:53The worldwide Church of God.

42:56And in my journey, actually until I came into CGI, I didn't understand the central role of Jesus Christ.

43:05I understood the Father.

43:07And everything was about the Father except at Passover time.

43:10Then at Passover time we talked about Jesus.

43:13But throughout the rest of the year, it was always the father, the father, the father.

43:17We prayed in Jesus' name, but we focused on the Father.

43:20If you read John 5, Christ makes it clear.

43:26That the father expects.

43:30Everyone and ultimately all humanity.

43:34To honor Christ the same way they honor Him.

43:39And I can remember a brother joining us once in a congregation, this is in CGI, but he joined us and I had known him from a previous congregation.

43:51And he looked at our hymns and he was singing our hymns, and he hated them.

43:57Way too much emphasis on Christ.

44:00He wanted to sing about the Father.

44:03And, and that's what made me see in John 5.

44:06Christ himself says, the Father wants us to worship Christ and honor Christ the same way we would worship and honor him.

44:16We read in 1 Corinthians 15 that the Father will bring everything under Christ, and when everything is subdued by Christ, and Philippians says every knee will bow to Christ, that means every knee, every, every being will worship Jesus Christ.

44:32And when everything has been subdued by Christ and Christ is acknowledged as God, as the Creator.

44:38Only then will he take everything and give it to the Father.

44:44But the Father wants to find this, this holy and pure bride as a gift to Jesus.

44:52So that she can reign with him.

44:54So we had better get our ideology and our theology clear and right and understand the role of Christ now.

45:01I think we had some historical reasons.

45:05To focus on the father.

45:08In the age of early America, Protestantism, and and they're just wholesale.

45:14Destruction of the gospel and a fake gospel and their focus on Christ.

45:18I think the worldwide Church of God was, was sort of contrasting themselves from and differentiating themselves from all of this Protestantism, but that what's the old saying, Don't throw out the baby with the bathwater.

45:33That the gospel centers on Jesus Christ, and there's no gospel without Him, and God Himself says we must worship Christ.

45:42The way we would worship Him and honor Christ, the way we would honor Him.

45:46So anybody who does not love.

45:49Wholeheartedly The Lord Jesus Christ.

45:54Paul says, let him be accursed.

45:57It's like, it's like preaching of the gospel, if you don't love the Lord Jesus Christ.

46:02The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

46:07My love, be with you all in Christ Jesus.

46:12Amen.

46:13And just a note here saying that he was, this was written when he was in Philippi.

46:19Wow, we have done it.

46:22We have come to the end of the first epistle.

46:27In fact, we've done many, many books together and just in case there are some new folks with us, I should mention to you that all of our studies are available in our line upon line academy, and if you are not familiar with it, the website is Line upon line Bible Academy.com, and I should just, again, if you're not familiar with that.

46:56I can just show you that.

47:02Just share my screen.

47:05I guess I have to stop sharing this one.

47:13Window So if you go to Line Up Online Bible Academy, you'll see here you can just click view more courses and all of the books that we've studied together, Jim French and his team

have done a great job of just getting all of the courses that we've done together in the Bible Academy, and there's just pages and pages here of what we have actually built together.

47:40So some of them are very early days, the technology wasn't great.

47:44And we continue to figure that out, but I just thought I'd point that out to you that we do have 1 Corinthians, that that book is up and running and ready to go.

47:53So all the courses are there, feel free to avail yourself and it's just helpful to just go back and review some of the things that we have studied together.

48:04I want to just share with you one more window here.

48:08Let me just see.

48:10If I can do that, why don't I?

48:15Where is it?

48:16It's right here.

48:18I'll just open this up and then I'll share this.

48:23So hopefully you can see this screen now.

48:26I'll just go ahead and share.

48:29So this is the summary now of First Corinthians and just tell me in the chat if you're seeing First Corinthians summary, is that being shared?

48:39No, I don't think it is.

48:41Is it being shared now?

48:44I think it is.

48:46OK, so here is the summary of the book that we've studied together, and I'm going to put in the chat the link in a moment.

48:56I'll put the link in the chat, so if you wanted to download this in preparation for next week, but the structure of the book as we've gone through this, the 1st 6 chapters and we were actually studying this during the Feast of Unleavened bread, which was perfect timing.

49:13Because the 1st 6 chapters were about these unbelievable amounts of leaven that were in the congregation, that he doesn't begin the letter until chapter 7.

49:24He begins responding to them in chapter 7.

49:26Urgently, he's addressing all of this len that's in the congregation to the point where there's incest and, and, and visiting prostitutes and, and taking each other to court in the, in the congregation.

49:39So Paul is saying like you got a D1.

49:41You've got to purify the congregation and delening is at a congregational level.

49:46So that was the 1st 6 chapters D11.

49:50Once he gets that out of the way, then he begins addressing their questions.

49:54And the first question, chapter 7, is all about issues related to marriage.

50:00Chapters 8 to 10 deal with meat sacrificed to idols, and before we studied this together, I just always knew chapter 8.

50:08Is the meat sacrificed to idol's chapter.

50:10And then I saw chapter 9 as Paul sort of explaining his ministry and his right to ask for support, and then chapter 10 was, you know, the, the things written anciently about ancient Israel, they're written for For us, they're there, they're, they're there to admonish us.

50:28Reading it line upon line and in context, all three of those chapters 8, 9, and 10 together collectively deal with this issue of meat sacrificed to idols.

50:39And in chapter 8, he's really telling them you gotta have love for the weak brother.

50:43But by the time he gets to chapter 10, he's saying it's not only the weak brother that could be lost and perish because of your callousness, you yourself.

50:52You know, many run in the race, but only one wins.

50:54All the rest lose, and you yourself are at risk, the strong ones, those that see themselves as strong in the faith, you yourself could fall.

51:03And fall to idolatry.

51:05So this 8, 9, and 10 were to deal with dealing with meat sacrificed to idols.

51:10Then chapter 11.

51:12He deals with primarily the Lord's Supper.

51:16And the way that they were conducting themselves during that meal was horrendous.

51:22I, I like to say it was more the devil's dinner than the Lord's supper.

51:25And so he deals with that and helps them to understand this is no way to conduct yourself.

51:30And, and there are consequences to this type of cultish behavior and, and, the word I'm looking for is, when, when, when people click, this is, this, these sort of cliques that you're developing, very, very bad consequences will come from that.

51:50Then he pivots from there to say you've got to understand and you've got to be able to discern the Lord's body, and that means you've got to be able to discern gifts and you need to understand gifts.

52:00So he wants them to understand the gifts, and he wants them to understand which gifts, how you should stack rank the gifts and which gifts in fact are more important than others, but the only way you could pursue the most important gifts in a healthy way is if you have agape.

52:16So he just takes a little bit of a tangent to explain agape to them as the foundation, and then he continues to share with them the best gift.

52:24Then in chapter 15, he addresses this issue that teachers in Corinth, sometimes people have disconnected theology.

52:34They they believe things that contradict, but they still believe the two things.

52:38They just haven't connected the dots to see that they're holding contradictory beliefs.

52:42Well, there were teachers in Corinth that were holding contradictory beliefs.

52:46They believed the gospel, but they didn't believe in the resurrection.

52:50And so Paul spends the entire chapter 15 dealing with the resurrection, and in a way we have to be grateful for the dysfunction in Corinth because this letter is just a gold mine, and this particular chapter is a gold mine, but often we read this chapter in isolation, like chapter 15 just hangs in the air by itself.

53:12I spent some time last week making the point that chapter 15, Paul is a rabbi.

53:18Chapter 15 is in the context of the Torah.

53:20In fact, the only Bible that the brethren had was the Hebrew Bible.

53:25What we call the New Testament didn't exist.

53:28And so Paul was teaching them, and this whole teaching in First Corinthians, he's teaching them from the Hebrew Bible.

53:36And so whatever our theology is, it has to be taught from the Hebrew Bible.

53:42And now we've come to chapter 16 where he deals with the collection and then he gives his final instructions.

53:50So I just wanted to give that to you as a review, and then I just have some questions here.

53:55So when we get together, God willing, next week, we're going to answer these questions.

53:59So I just want to give you the questions ahead of time.

54:01What did you learn from this letter?

54:04Is there anything that surprised you?

54:06There are a few things that I have to say surprised me.

54:09And are you able to make any connections to any of the other books that we've studied or any of the other books in the Bible?

54:15What connections do you see in the lessons that Paul was giving to the Corinthian brethren to other scriptures, particularly the in the Hebrew Bible, but not, not when we say when we say, Scriptures, we mean the Hebrew Bible that you never see in the Bible the word scriptures referring to the quote unquote New Testament or the apostolic writing.

54:37Scriptures means the Hebrew Bible.

54:40Today we say scriptures meaning it all, but I just put here other books so we can include any book that we have studied or that you have studied that you see connections to.

54:49So I'm gonna go ahead and put that in the chat for you.

54:55And while I'm doing that, Michael Deering put out a really nice, good newsletter this week.

55:01If you're not subscribed to his newsletter, highly recommended.

55:05He's a really solid writer.

55:07he's got his head on his shoulders, and I would just highly recommend his newsletter.

55:13He usually sends this out once a week, and again, we're keeping watch.

55:17We have to be aware.

55:18And I think he usually has a great, a great read on what's going on.

55:23While you're doing that, I want to put in the chat the link to that sheet, hopefully that you'll be able to get that and download that, and we will be together in person next week.

55:35So we'll start here on Rumble, so just tune in the way you normally would, and then from there we will pivot over to, I'll I'll put in the chat the way I just did.

55:45The link to Zoom, so those of us who are here live, we will just continue our conversation over in the Zoom channel, and as I mentioned, Pastor Murray will be joining me.

55:58I think that is it.

56:02For today, and it's hard to believe that we actually completed the study.

56:08So please join us, God willing, you will be able to join us next week.

56:13, sorry, this, this Sabbath I should say, so next week we'll we'll be together, but hopefully you'll be able to join us this Sabbath as we have our regular service and Deacon Jan is scheduled to speak to us this week, and that'll be at 1:30 on Sabbath.

56:331:30, let me just go ahead and check the chat to see if there's anything that I need to respond to in.

56:40The meantime.

56:43So, thank you, brethren, and hopefully you're able to download that.

56:49Sheet And thank you, Sister Rosebud.

56:53I appreciate you as well.

56:55Thank you, Nate.

56:56Very, very good.

57:00How can you not love and revere a Messiah when you know the truth of what he's done?

57:05Great, great question, but you know what.

57:07Be amazed what happens in the minds of men.

57:10So thank you very much for that.

57:12If God's spirit is working with us, we will certainly love and revere Messiah.

57:18Very, very good.

57:19Thank you, brethren.

57:19Thank you, Stefan and Sandy.

57:21God bless you.

57:22God willing, we'll be together live next week and you'll be with us on Sabbath.

57:28God bless Jesus is Lord.

57:31Amen.