

LG NOTES - 1 Corinthians #1 – IDENTITY

Before going live:

1. Read Acts 18:1-18
2. Have a flick through the background to 1 Corinthians

Resources to choose from:

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/1-corinthians/>

<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/newtestament/section7/>

<https://www.biblica.com/resources/scholar-notes/niv-study-bible/intro-to-1-corinthians/>

<https://bible.org/seriespage/1-introduction-and-background-1-corinthians>

Sunday's talk is here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRTL5sGODLU>

Live discussion:

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 together.

The word for **church** is ekklesia, which is Greek.

"ek", means "out of"

"kaleo", a verb "to call"

- together, literally, "**to call out**".

Discussion:

1. What elements of the Corinthian church was Paul calling them out of in this letter? (use the background info on Corinth to answer this)
2. What were they doing well at?
3. What were they doing badly at?

Activity:

Remember that this is a letter, and (like only hearing one side of a phone conversation) there will be

- some bits we don't understand – because we can't hear the other side and it doesn't make sense.
- other bits that make sense if we understand the history and the culture of 1st Century Greece.
- and other bits obvious to everyone without the need for much background knowledge.

Read the letter this week and be aware of which bits make sense to you, which bits you need some inside knowledge to understand, and which bits have a big question mark over them because we don't have the full picture.

Ministry:

Paul started with their identity – calling them sanctified and holy.

That is Jesus' starting place with you. It is positional (ie done for us by Jesus on the cross, not relative to our performance).

Meditate on these verses and then go into prayer ministry:

- Ephesians 1:1-3
- 1 Corinthians 6:11
- 2 Corinthians 5:21

Something to finish with.

Have a closer look at verse 17 of Acts 18. Then again at vers 1 of 1 Corinthians 1. What's happened there then?