

1 CORINTHIANS
CALLED OUT
SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM



Sermon: **An Example of Loving Each Other (1 Corinthians 16:5-12)**

Date: **February 11, 2018**

The apostle Paul is bringing his letter to the Corinthians to a close. In this week's text, Paul tells the Corinthians of his future plans to visit them and spend time with them. His love for the Corinthian church serves as an example to us. Although Paul has had to give several strong rebukes to the Corinthian church, he still has a Christ-like love for them. He desires to be with them and to spend time with them. Timothy, Paul's disciple, is already on his way to visit the Corinthian church. Paul urges them to receive him well and to show love to this visiting pastor. Finally, in verse 12, we see that Paul urged Apollos to visit the Corinthian church as well. We learned earlier in this letter that there were factions and division in the church based on the different personalities of some of their leaders, including Paul and Apollos. Paul did not let this get between him and Apollos. He had a brotherly love for Apollos and did not entertain jealousy or bitterness toward his brother. In this week's study, we will learn about the importance of loving one another after strong rebukes, of walking through open doors for the sake of the gospel, of loving our pastors, and of eliminating factions and divisions within our midst.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read 1 Corinthians 16:5-12 and ensure that you've listened to the sermon from Sunday.
 - a. Paul has given several rebukes to the Corinthian church thus far in his letter. What are some examples of these rebukes?
 - b. What do we learn about Paul's disposition toward the Corinthian church from verses 5-7?
 - c. How are Paul and the Corinthian church able to love one another even after several strong rebukes have been made throughout the letter?
 - d. What does Psalm 141:5 teach us about how we should receive a rebuke? What does Psalm 133:1-2 teach us about the importance of maintaining unity amongst our brothers and sisters in Christ?
 - e. According to verse 8, why didn't Paul go to Corinth immediately? Read Acts 19:22-34 and summarize the situation in Ephesus that Paul might be referring to in this verse.

1 CORINTHIANS CALLED OUT

SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM



- f. How might the situation in Ephesus be “a wide door for effective work,” (v. 9)?
- g. Who is Timothy (v. 10)? Why is Timothy being sent to the Corinthians?
- h. How does Paul want the Corinthians to receive Timothy? What can we learn from this example?
- i. Paul mentions Apollos in verse 12. What were the differences in personality between Paul and Apollos and how did this affect the Corinthian church?
- j. What can we learn from Paul’s relationship with Apollos? How is it instructive for us?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. It is hard for many of us to receive a strong rebuke from another believer. Why is this hard at times? Why should we be thankful when someone rebukes us? How can we learn to be more appreciative of a rebuke?
3. Paul saw an open door for the gospel in Ephesus but with this opportunity came many adversaries (v.8). Why should we expect opposition when God is at work? What can we learn from Paul’s example?
4. Why is it important that we show love to our pastors and elders? How can we practically do this?
5. Why is church unity so vital to the life of the church? What do we learn from the example of Paul, Apollos, and the Corinthian church?