

## WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////



*This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your group.*

### FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What have you learned about Paul, Corinth, or this letter so far that has been helpful?

2. What was your “aha moment” on the topic of grace? How would you define grace differently? What are you most thankful for when it comes to God’s grace?

3. Why is it important that the church not be lacking in spiritual gifts? What gifts do you see lacking at ECC?

4. What do you like about Paul’s discussion of the end? Why?

5. What was your best “takeaway” from our study?

### SCRIPTURES

*1Cor. 1:4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*1Cor. 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.*



January 13 & 14, 2018 | Divided #1 | 1Cor. 1:4-10 | Dennis Miller, pastor

### TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES

1. Unity in the church is the greatest TESTIMONY to Christ and His WORK.

*John 13:34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

2. We who have the SPIRIT of Christ also have the “MIND of Christ,” and we need to use the WISDOM that has been entrusted to us.

*1Cor. 2:16 for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.*

### LET’S REVIEW

*1Cor. 1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: 3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

1. Paul visited Corinth in his SECOND missionary adventure and lived there for 18 months. He wrote MULTIPLE letters to these people and this is the SECOND one.

2. The Corinthian people were “SAINTS” because of their FAITH in Christ, but many were not LIVING in a way that SHOWED them to be followers of Christ.

## THE PAST — GRACE

1Cor. 1:4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

1. Paul begins with his HEART (thanks) for these people. *Do you realize that we are reading someone else's mail?*
2. GRACE in Christ Jesus is a key THEME and must be understood:

### God's Redemption At Christ's Expense

- a. Without this GRACE, we cannot BELONG to Christ. And this grace is a FREE gift!
- b. Nothing can be ADDED to this grace or it will DETRACT. Remember: Grace + NOTHING = Salvation.

*You cannot add . . .*

- RIGHTEOUSNESS (your own)
- REMORSE
- RESTITUTION

## THE PRESENT — GIFTS

1Cor. 1:5 For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

1. Grace has not only saved you but has ENRICHED you in EVERY way! Paul specifically includes their speech and knowledge which is a strength and a WEAKNESS.
2. And the testimony (μαρτύριον, martyrion) of Christ is CONFIRMED in you. It is REAL!
3. “Therefore . . .” — Because of grace, you also have GIFTS!
4. The church is not lacking ANY gift to fulfill her MINISTRY in this age.
5. And we, as the CHURCH, eagerly look FORWARD to His return (And we don't fear His return because of GRACE!)

## THE FUTURE — GOLDEN

1Cor. 1:8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1. Because God is FAITHFUL (not because we are), He will HOLD on to us to the END.
2. And when the end COMES, you will be BLAMELESS (because of GRACE).
3. But you don't even have to WAIT until the end to be WITH Christ because you have His (κοινωνία koinōnia) fellowship (partnership, communion, intimacy, participation, etc.) NOW.

## THE PROBLEM — GAPS

1Cor. 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

1. Because of fellowship with Christ Jesus, Paul APPEALS (παρακαλέω parakaleō, beseech, admonish, exhort) to “*speaking the same thing.*” This is a reference to DOCTRINAL unity!
2. There cannot be DIVISIONS (σχίσμα, schisma) in the church concerning matters of ESSENTIAL doctrine.

Rom. 16:17 I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.

1Cor. 11:18 In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it.

1Cor. 12:25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

3. And then Paul says the EXACT same thing but from a POSITIVE perspective just to emphasize this point. Doctrinal UNITY is essential for the church!

## THE PERTINENCE — GUARANTEED!

1. If you are a follower of Christ, you have RECEIVED God's grace!
2. Because of His grace, you have GIFTS. USE them!
3. Your future is ASSURED, but live in His presence NOW!