



“Letters to the Corinthians” Study Notes

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Lesson 8: Whom Are You Seeking to Please?

1 Corinthians 4:1-21

Read Matthew 5:1-12. To whom does Jesus say the kingdom of heaven belongs? These statements build off of each other. Who would qualify to be “poor in spirit”?

What kind of mourning is Jesus talking about here? (Hint: this isn't about death.) Who will inherit the earth? Who will be satisfied? Who will receive mercy? Who will see God? Who will be called sons of God? Again, who will inherit the kingdom of God? When are we blessed? Why should we rejoice?

What does this show us about the things that God values? What does it show us about “God's economy” and how that compares with what the world values?

Read Galatians 2:20-21. How does Paul explain how our lives are to be lived when we are truly saved? Why do we live our lives this way? In practical ways, what might this mean our lives should reflect? How can others see that you are living not for yourself, but for Christ?

Read John 13:12-17. What had Jesus just finished doing? What does Jesus explain to the disciples is the point of what He just did?

Who is greater, the servant or the master? Consider the people of Corinth and their sinful pride. What might their reaction have been to being told this? Why?

Read John 13:34-35. What new command does Jesus give? How are we to know how to do this? What will people know, if we do this?

Read 1 John 2:4-6. What is the evidence of being a liar? What is going on in the one who keeps His Word? How can we know that we are in Him?

Read 1 Peter 2:11-12. What is a sojourner? What is an exile? How is that an accurate description of believers? As sojourners and exiles, what should we abstain from? How should our conduct be?

As you spend time with God today, consider whom you are imitating. Are you imitating Christ and His example? How are you doing this, practically?

What does it look like, in your life as a daughter, wife, mother, etc. to deny yourself and consider others as better than yourself? Ask God to help you to

discern what it means, in your life, to imitate Christ and to grow in God's economy not in the economy of the world. Ask Him to give you eyes to examine yourself and know how you are valuing the things of the world instead of the things of God. Ask Him to help you to fill yourself where you should be filled: His Word. Ask Him to help you to love His Word, to value and esteem it, and be drawn more and more to it. Ask Him to help you to see where you are spending time on things that are hindering your walk with God, instead of helping. Ask God to work on your heart to change your values so you value the things that He values, more every day.