

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹ But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ.

² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? ⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹ For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

Moving Past Childhood

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Todd Chapman - February 28, 2021

Paul wants to make clear that though we start our journey with Him as children, not growing in our faith is an unhealthy sign.

Those who genuinely treasure Jesus grow.

- Our relationship with Jesus is a journey.
- Our life displays where we are on the journey.

God is the source of all spiritual life and growth.

- God uses people to help us grow.
- God alone is the source of all spiritual life and growth.

Notes:

Life Group Discussion Questions

Based on 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Getting Started

1. As you go about your everyday life and engage in various conversations, what sort of things suggest to you that the specific person you're talking to is a genuine Believer?
2. Looking at where you've been in your own spiritual journey, what have been some things that have helped you grow and progress along the way?
3. What are some characteristics that might distinguish "infants" from "teenagers" from "adults" in their faith in Jesus?

Digging into the Text

4. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 and respond:
 - In a sentence or two, summarize what the author is saying in this text?
 - What is Paul intending to communicate to the Corinthians when he uses the imagery of how parents feed children in vv. 1-2? What does the "milk" and "solid food" refer to? How does it relate to communicating with believers of different stages?
 - In vv. 3-4, what does being "fleshly" or "merely human" refer to?
 - Based on vv. 5-9, what role do humans play and what role does God play in the spiritual growth process?

Applying It to My Life

5. In assessing the last few months, what are some ways you've seen God move and grow your faith?
6. What is a step you can take this week to help build the faith of someone close to you?
7. In what ways can the group be praying for you as we all seek to mature in our faith and encourage others to do the same?