

Read 1 Corinthians 1 a couple of times before starting to answer the questions. Pray and ask God to teach you from His word so that you will be able to apply it to your own walk of faith and share it with others.

Let's do some investigation. Often as I am reading the chapter I use a highlighter to mark the, who, what, where, when, why and how. You might want to try this. It is very helpful when you are going back to locate these facts later.

1. Who wrote this letter?
2. Who is this letter written to according to verse 2?
3. How is Paul acquainted with these people?
You might like to look back at Acts 18; Paul's second missionary journey.
4. What was the purpose of this letter?
5. Before the author gets into his intended purpose for writing, what did he do first?

6. What is the problem Paul is addressing in verses 10-17?
Try to state in one word what is going on in the Corinthian church.
How does Paul even know what is going on if he is not there?
Underline what he calls them in verse 11; he is planting the seed of unity simply by using this word. Do you plant seeds like this when correcting others?

7. Does the church still suffer from this type of error today?
The church is not simply the local group of people you worship with on Sunday morning. The word translated church in the Greek is Ekklesia "called out ones". This word is used 115 times in the New Testament.

8. If this is still a problem today, is there anything we should or could be doing to teach truth?
It is imperative that we know the truth so that we will be able to discern the areas which we can agree to disagree and still have fellowship.

9. Which of the verses would you say is the key verse in this chapter?
Why?
(Remember when something is key, that means if you remove it something vital has been taken away.) Maybe you would like to memorize it this week.

10. What was the focus of the leaders in the Corinthian church?
11. Have you ever fallen prey to this? You followed the man or the denomination over Christ; maybe not intentionally.
12. What does Paul say the cross of Christ is to the Jew and to the Gentiles? Vs. 23

Dot #2 .

(Do not worry with this dot until you get down to question #23)

13. What does Paul say the cross is to those who believe whether Jew or Gentile? Vs. 18
14. There is a reoccurring word in this chapter; did you spot it? Vss.18-31
15. Underline or highlight the word “wisdom” and “wise”. How many times did you find it?
16. What were the two different types of wisdom that Paul was talking about?
17. Write two columns and under each write what you learned about wisdom.
18. Have things changed or are people still infatuated by wisdom? Are they really wiser?
19. What have you observed today whether personally, on television, radio or the internet that would show you the desire of others to gain wisdom?
20. Where does true wisdom dwell?
21. Why would the Jews have considered the gospel foolishness? Weren't they waiting on the Messiah?
 - In the Old Testament book of Daniel the Messiah is mentioned, that word in the Hebrew is Mashiyach, it means Anointed One.
 - In the New Testament Acts 4:26 the Anointed One is referred by the Greek word Christos.
 - In Matthew 1:1 he is called Jesus Christ. Jesus means Jehovah is salvation and Christ means the Anointed One.
22. Are you beginning to see why their petty divisions were really a serious matter? This is a quote we have written on our Within the Word website says “Even the most gifted and well trained athlete cannot and will not hit their goal when headed slightly off their intended mark, so periodically check your course. “

How far off track is important? Dot #3 .

- There is a dot (#1) at the bottom of your paper (label it START) and a dot (#2) (label it GOAL) at the top. Now connect #1 & #2 the two with a straight line. Now go back to the bottom of the page, draw a line that extends from your original dot (#1) through the new one (#3) and extend it on up the page to see where it will end up. Are you anywhere close to your original goal?

Dot #1 .

23. The Greek word for foolishness is “moros” we get our word “moron” from this same Greek word. What is Paul’s point?
24. Insanity has been defined as “doing the same thing over and over the same way and expecting a different outcome”. Would you say that is a correct definition?
25. What were the Jews looking for? Vs.22
26. What were the Greeks looking for? V. 22
27. Why does God choose the foolish, simple or weak things to use for his glory vs. 25-31?

Romans 11:17 But some of these branches from Abraham's tree, some of the Jews, have been broken off. And you Gentiles, who were branches from a wild olive tree, were grafted in. So now you also receive the blessing God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in God's rich nourishment of his special olive tree. **New Living Translation**

28. I love the picture of our being grafted in like branches of an olive tree. We now share the tree’s nourishment based on our faith in God. You might like to turn your paper over and draw this illustration. Label the tap root Jehovah, then go up the trunk with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Israel, and Gentile believers. If you are a follower of Christ you can add your name to the tree also. You have been grafted in.