

## 1 Corinthians 3 study guide

This chapter will address a problem that the church suffers from today. That is why it is so important that we listen and understand what the Word of God is teaching here.

Read this chapter aloud once or twice to yourself or go online, [www.bibletools.com](http://www.bibletools.com) and have it read to you. If you go online you must choose King James or Living Bible versions to hear it read aloud. Listen to it a couple of times. Pray and ask God to open your eyes, ears and heart to all he would show you today.

1. I know you have answered this before in your study of chapters 1 and 2 but what were the believers in Corinth doing that motivated Paul to write them?
2. How does Paul say he has been forced to deal with the Corinthian believers? Vss. 1-4
3. How important a problem is this?  
Is this an external influence problem or an internal heart problem?
4. Paul refers to two groups of believers' \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Paul says he has fed them with milk and not solid food. As parents we understand why it is best to start babies on milk. What are a few of the reasons for starting a baby on milk and not on solid foods? How do you begin introducing solid food?
6. Think for a minute: give a brief explanation of these two types of believers.
  - Carnal (KJV) Worldly (NIV) of the flesh (ESV)
  - Spiritual
7. Define (if you go online to [www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com) . Use the KJV of the Bible to look up 1 Cor. 3. Now click the box Strong's Concordance it will highlight the Greek words for you and you can click on them and it will look them up for you in the Greek and give you a definition.
  - Envy -
  - Strife -
  - Divisions -
8. How does this type of behavior line up with the word of God?
9. Look up 2 Corinthians 13:11; how are believers to live out their faith? Look this verse up in a couple of different versions.

Now let's look at verses 5-17

10. Paul uses a farmer (vss. 5-8) and a builder (vss.9-15) as examples in these 13 verses. What did you learn from these verses about the farmer and the builder?

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11. Who did Paul state is God's field?

God's building?

12. Who are you allowing to work in the field of your heart and to build up your building sturdy and strong for Christ?

Do you realize that the people who are pouring into you are simply workers for God's glory?  
They should be shown respect but never blindly followed.

13. What are you doing with the truth you are given by those who desire to see you grow and mature?  
James 1:22

14. Are you serving Christ by building others up in the truth of God's word?

15. Vss. 16 & 17 are very serious. We need to pay special attention to the instructions given here.  
Read Jesus prayer for his disciples and all believers in John 17: 19-23. Jesus desire is that  
believers live in harmony and unity.

16. What actions could you take this week to strengthen your ties to fellow Christians in the church  
of Jesus Christ? (Not just your local church but the church body.)

17. What do you perceive was the problem Paul was addressing in vss. 18-23?

What had Paul said at the first of his letter that addressed this issue? 1 Cor. 2:1

There is nothing the matter with advancing your learning, we can always learn more but if what  
we are being taught contradicts the word of God then we must recognize it as false. God's Word is  
always our plumb-line for truth.

18. What has God revealed to you this week as you have spent time in His word?

Ask God for eyes to see and ears to hear and a heart that is open to Him.

Now ask Him for opportunities to apply what you have learned.