

Challenges of the Local Church

1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9
KEY WORD: CALLED
JANUARY 29, 2017

1 Cor. 1:1-9

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- 4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, 5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— 6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Outline

1. A Greeting for the Corinthians (1-3)
2. A Prayer for the Corinthians (4-9)



“If the gospel itself is at stake in the Corinthians’ theology and behavior, so also is its visible expression in the local community of the redeemed people. The net result is more teaching on the church here than in any of Paul’s letters.”

Gordon Fee, *The First Epistle to the Corinthians*

Chapters 1 – 4 Division in the church - Concern
Chapters 5 – 6 Immorality in the church - Correction
Chapters 7-15 Difficult Issues in the church – Counsel

Key Verse - 1:2 - To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Book Theme: Seeing Every Part of Life Through the Lens of the Gospel.

1. A Greeting for the Corinthians (1-3)

1 Paul, **called** by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, **called** to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

They were called by Jesus, so every area he will be discussing should be seen through the lens of the gospel.

2. A Prayer for the Corinthians (4-9)

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, 5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— 6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- **God's grace gives us what we do not deserve and mercy shields us from what we do deserve.**
- **The problem was not in God's provision for them, it was their wrong attitude about these provisions.**

- “Just as the testimony about Christ was confirmed in the grace gifts given to the church, so the believers will be confirmed blameless when Christ returns.” David Jackman – Let’s Study 1 Corinthians
 - **The grace that saves you is also the grace that keeps you**
 - **A clear future focus is essential for healthy Christian living today**
- v. 9 - God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord
- **See Every Part of Life Through the Lens of the Gospel**

