

The Church -God's Temple 1 Corinthians 3:10-17 October 27, 2019

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. - 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

I. JESUS CHRIST - THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

- Paul planted the church in Corinth. Now others are building on his foundation. The framers must take into consideration the foundation and architecture as they build (vss. 10-15).
- The foundation is Jesus Christ; his crucifixion, burial, and resurrection (1 Cor. 1:18-2:5, 15:1-4).

II. THREE TYPES OF BUILDERS

- The "Day" of Christ will reveal the quality of our labor (vs. 13; 1 Peter 1:3-5).
 - 1. The one who builds with quality materials...
 - A) testing proves its value (vs. 13).
 - B) will receive a reward (vs. 14).
 - 2. The one who utilizes inferior materials...
 - A) testing proves its value (vs. 13).
 - B) will suffer loss yet be saved (vs. 15).
 - 3. The one who destroys God's temple...
 - A) God will destroy (vs. 17).

III. GOD'S TEMPLE

- Although all believers are a "temple of the Holy Spirit," here Paul speaks of the church corporately (vss. 16-17; 1 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 2:19-22).
- The church belongs to Christ. As such, it is holy, even though it is not perfect (Eph. 1:22-23, 2:21; Col. 1:18).
- The church matters. It is God's temple (Eph. 3:7-12; 1 Tim. 3:14-16).

KNOW: How we work together, teach, serve and do ministry is important. We are called to build faithfully and carefully on the foundation of the church that has already been established.

DO: Be a faithful builder at LifePoint Church.

Suggested Reading:

Nine Marks of a Healthy Church by Mark Dever (LifePoint Library #262 DEV).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

- 1. How does Paul describe himself in relation to his church planning in Corinth? Does the metaphor work?
- 2. What seems to be his main concern in this section? Why is it a concern for him?
- 3. What, according to Paul is the foundation of the church?
- 4. Talk about our works and our final judgment as believers. Is Paul saying a genuine believer can lose their salvation?
- 5. How will our works, both good and not so good, be judged by God as followers of Christ?
- 6. Why is the church (universal and local) so important?
- 7. How does LifePoint Church fare in this discussion, do you think? Are there areas where we need to change?