



CONDUCT OF THE CHURCH

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ON LINE HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

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Lesson 1

SALVATION—THE REASON FOR RIGHT CONDUCT

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

The adult Corinthian Christians had many problems. So the Apostle Paul wrote First Corinthians to correct these problems. If your students are children, you may feel that they will not be able to understand the adult problems. However, it would be good to read through these lessons before coming to a firm decision.

What were some of the Corinthian problems? They had a very great desire to be wise. (Many children are like this also.) So they had to learn that in Christ alone is true wisdom. Then, too, they were not living as temples of God. They were divided into rival groups. (Have you watched children when they are having games or contests? Do they almost always divide into

the same teams? Do they get the feeling that their leader is best and therefore their team is best? If so, they will understand about the divisions in the Corinthian church.)

The Corinthians did not understand that people are married for life. They needed to be taught the correct manner of dress when worshiping God in His house. They had to learn how to participate in the Communion service.

Do you see the importance of teaching these lessons even to children? Remember that the Corinthian believers, though adults, were only children in their new faith in Christ. Yet they had to have strong teaching if they were to become strong Christians.

Scripture to be studied: 1 Corinthians 1-2; Ephesians 2:8-10; 2 Timothy 1:9

The aim of the lesson: To help Christians know that because of their wonderful salvation, they should want to live to please God.

What your students should know: The Lord Jesus will help believers live lives pleasing to God.

What your students should feel: A desire to please God in their daily lives.

What your students should do: Ask the Lord Jesus to help them turn from sin. List in their notebooks all their sinful practices and determine how they can turn from those things.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. Those who trust in Christ are declared righteous (Romans 3:10-23).
2. Those who trust in Christ are sanctified (1 Corinthians 1:1, 10-13).
3. Those who trust in Christ are redeemed (1 Corinthians 1:9; Ephesians 2:8-10).
4. Believers will be caught up to be with Christ, never again to sin (1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

The verses to be memorized:

Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you . . . and ye are not your own . . . ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

THE LESSON

The Apostle Paul was an excellent missionary. He preached the Gospel wherever he went—in cities, by the seaside, in jails. As soon as people turned to Christ, Paul taught them the truths of God.

Long after Paul left the new Christians, he remembered them. He prayed for them. He wrote letters to them. Some of those letters have been kept for us and form a large part of our New Testament. It is one of his letters, First Corinthians, which we will study in this series. Although Paul wrote the letter more than 1,900 years ago, it is also for us today. (See 1 Corinthians 1:2.) So you will want to listen carefully.

Paul had spent a year and a half in Corinth on his second missionary journey. (See Acts 18:1-17.) He was concerned for that city because it was very wicked. Even though it was one of the richest cities in Greece, the people didn't want to give money to a missionary. So Paul made tents to earn enough to take care of himself while he preached.

By the time he left Corinth, a church had begun. The new believers in that church had been saved, but they were baby Christians. Have you watched babies when they are learning to walk? They take a few steps and fall. Someone helps them to their feet and they try again. Walking, stumbling, falling, and trying again. That is the way it is with baby Christians. They start in their new life but make many mistakes—they sin and fail. The Corinthians were like this. As a result, many problems arose in the Corinthian church. So Paul wrote this letter (during