



Growth Group Discussion Guide

"Growing Upward, Inward, Outward, and Forward"

For the Week of January 24, 2016



1 Corinthians 1:1-3

"Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ--their Lord and ours: 3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Sermon Outline

- This week we had an introduction to the book of 1 Corinthians which included looking at:
 - The geography and culture
 - The socioeconomic situation
 - The date of the letter
 - Prior communication between Paul and the church
- Then we looked at Paul's salutation to them in 1:1-3
- In this salutation Paul defended his apostleship and authority and gave the church some reminders for Christian living.

WELCOME – Getting to Know Each Other Better

- What has been on your heart the most lately with regard to prayer?
- How are you currently spending time with God daily?

WORD - Applying Scripture to Our Lives

1. Before Pastor Casey got into the Intro to 1 Corinthians he gave a lookback at 2015 in the life of UBC. What part of 2015 at UBC meant the most to you?
2. How do you plan to contribute to building up the body of Christ at UBC this year?
3. How would you describe the church at Corinth?
4. What did you learn about the geography, culture, socioeconomic situation, date of writing, and prior communication between the church and Paul?
5. What do you think was Paul's attitude or feelings as he wrote this letter?

6. What was Paul trying to do in verses 1-3?
7. What do you think made the church move away from submission to Paul's authority in his absence?
8. What authority do you think a pastor should have in the church? In your life?
9. What reminders did Paul give the church in these verses?
10. Which of these reminders were helpful for you to remember as you think about your faith journey?
11. How has your relationship with Christ changed your understanding of your identity? Or if it hasn't – how should it?
12. Why do you think this series is subtitled, "Becoming What You Are?"
13. What worldly things do you hope to let go of this year so that you can live more focused on eternal things?

WITNESS - Prayer Concerns from my Growth Group:

- Who has God placed in your life who does not know Christ?
- How can we pray for your spiritual growth tonight?
- What other prayer concerns do you have?