



729
MESSY
church





729

MESSY church

A STUDY OF 1ST CORINTHIANS



Front Window

Rear Window

***...a framework through which
a message is seen and understood.***

Front Window

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

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.

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 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.

Rear Window

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Imperative Cluster

**¹³ Be watchful,
stand firm in the faith,
act like men,
be strong.**

¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.

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Rear Window

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Imperative Cluster

Invite men in,
so you can lift men up,
in order to call men out
to something better,
together.

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Imperative Cluster

Invite men in,
so you can lift men up,
in order to call men out
to something better,
together.



Rear Window

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Imperative Cluster

Invite people in,
so you can lift people up,
in order to call people out
to something better,
together.



MESSY church

I Corinthians 1:10-17

Divisions
Baptism
Preaching

I Corinthians 1:10-17

¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.

¹² What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ."

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Greek: parakaleó

(same word family used for the Holy Spirit)

Definition: to call to or for, to exhort, to encourage

Usage: **to encourage by being "up-close and personal."**

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What's the 'driving force' of a church?

is quarreling among you, my brothers.

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What's the 'driving force' of a church?

1. Personality Driven

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What's the 'driving force' of a church?

1. Personality Driven
2. Program Driven

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2. Program Driven
3. **Entertainment Driven**

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What's the 'driving force' of a church?

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2. Program Driven
3. Entertainment Driven
4. **Agenda Driven**

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What's the 'driving force' of a church?

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3. Entertainment Driven
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5. **Spirit Driven**

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Zechariah 4:6

Then he said to me,

“This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel:

**Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit,
says the Lord of hosts.”**

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13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you?

Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus
and Gaius,

15 so that no one may say that you were baptized in my
name.

16 *(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond
that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)*

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the
gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom,
lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

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Our desire is that
the church would have :

*“Unity in the essentials.
Charity in the non-essentials.
In all things, Jesus Christ.”*

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David Lowery, commentary on I Corinthians

Paul's imitation of Christ apparently touched every aspect of his ministry.

According to John 4:2, Jesus did not baptize, but left it to His disciples.

This was usually Paul's practice too. Could Paul then have believed baptism was necessary for salvation? Such is impossible (I Cor. 4:15; 9:1, 22; 15:1-2).

Not that baptism is pointless. It was commanded by Christ in Matthew 28:19 and practiced by the early church (Acts 2:41), which makes it, along with the

Lord's Supper, an ordinance of the church.

But it is what an ordinance gives testimony to, not what it effects, that is more important.

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Associates for Biblical Research

The ordinance of baptism has nothing to do with one's salvation. The salvation of an individual is determined when a person puts his or her trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and Him alone as his or her Savior.

Baptism is an outward testimony before the local church to the changed life of the new believer. It is also a testimony to the non-believers in the local community and provides an opportunity for both courage and accountability of the one being baptized.

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14 I thank

Greek: euaggelizó

Definition: to announce good news

Usage: I bring good news, preach good tidings, with or without an object, expressing either the persons who receive the good news or the good news itself (the good news being sometimes expressed as a person); to proclaim, to explain.

15

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Big Ideas...

Divisions

Baptism

Preaching



Clearly, ***factions in the body of Christ ...***

(divisions, conflict, unresolved conflict, human pride, unwillingness to humble ourselves and own up to our wrongs, taking up sides, and driving the church with anything or anybody other than the guiding of the Holy Spirit)

... grieves God deeply and destroy the fabric of a church.



**Baptism is a profoundly dynamic way
to testify to the life of Christ in us...**

we identify with dying to self in the submersion
we identify with the newness of life in our emersion...

but, it is not essential for salvation.



Preaching

(announcing, proclaiming, explaining, demonstrating)

**the “good news” of the cross of Christ
is like offering a cup of cold water to the thirsty in a desert.**



So...therefore...what now?



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... grieves God deeply and destroy the fabric of a church.

Where and how could you contribute to
the unity of the body of Christ?



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we identify with the newness of life in our emersion...

but, it is not essential for salvation.

Do you need to be baptized...
...not for salvation but as a way to obey Christ
and share your story with the world.

So...therefore...what now?

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So...therefore...what now?

Preaching

(announcing, proclaiming, explaining, demonstrating)

**the “good news” of the cross of Christ
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Are you ready and willing
to announce, proclaim, explain and demonstrate
the gospel of life to a dying world?



