QT Questions — for 1Corinthians

In 1 Corinthians, Paul emphasizes how to live as a Christian community, which differs from the values of this world. The Corinthians had heard the story of Jesus and embraced it with enthusiasm, but over time it had been twisted. Their culture's stories were distorting their views about following Jesus.

Like the Corinthians, we live in a world filled with ideas and practices that are at odds with the gospel. Every day, we hear stories about what it means to be wise and spiritual based on our secular culture, and these often cause us to misunderstand our place in the world or distort the gospel for our own purposes. Paul challenges our desires to be sophisticated and powerful and shows them to be empty counterfeits. We are challenged to walk away from immorality and live as God's people, empowered by the Holy Spirit. We are to embrace the power of the resurrection and serve joyfully our beautiful and holy God.

May our God give us humble hearts and attentive ears and eyes and minds to see and hear and learn what our God desires for us to hear and to humbly obey. Let's join Mary, and sit at the feet of our Lord Jesus, and let's not let any of His word drop to the ground. Let's say it with Samuel, "Speak, for Your servant is listening."

1Cor 1 (11/25)

- 1. How was the church divided over her leaders; how does God desire for His church to view her leaders?
- 2. In 1:17, how is the cross of Christ emptied of its power; can you explain how this is so?
- 3. In 1:21, why would God's wisdom not want the people to know Him through the world's wisdom; can you explain how this plays out in our lives?
- 4. In 1:30, why is Christ for us wisdom from God; how does His wisdom impact our lives?

1Cor 2 (11/26)

- 1. In 2:1-5, how can our faith rest on God's power and not on human wisdom; can you share your experience?
- 2. In 2:9, imagine a person you love who does not know Christ is asking you to explain this verse, will you pray and answer in the best way you know how?
- 3. In 2:10-15, why are people of the world not able to understand God's ways; how does He become more present and real in our lives?
- 4. In 2:16, Paul says "But we have the mind of Christ"—how can we have the mind of Christ in us; and when we do, what are we to do?

1Cor 3 (11/27)

- 1. What does Paul mean for the people to be worldly; are there traces of worldliness in you?
- 2. What is the triangle relationship of God, His servants, and the people?

- 3. Why can the foundation not be adorned with gold, silver and costly things; how is this applicable to our faith?
- 4. Who dwells in our midst; how does that impact our daily lives?

1Cor 4 (11/29)

- 1. In 4:1-2, what does God desire from the people He has given a trust; why do you think that's more important to God than success from His people, which most people crave so much?
- 2. In our world, "when our conscience is clear," that's pretty good standard for blamelessness—how would Paul respond to that; how should we apply Paul's teaching in our lives?
- 3. From 4:7, Paul is teaching us with his three questions—will you answer each question, and see if it applies to your life?
- 4. From 4:8-21, how would you summarize Paul's relationship with the believers in Corinth at this time?—Please use specific verses to make your point.

1Cor 5 (11/30)

Dear people of God, we are living in a culture where tolerance is greatly preached. As you know, many times, God's word will not follow the culture, even our own thoughts and convictions. May we approach this chapter with great humility, to be captured with God's truth and obey, especially at times, where we may be very uncomfortable and uneasy. May God's word always be true, and if we should contradict Him, may we be certain that we know we are the liars. I pray that we will read this short, simple chapter slowly, and chew and meditate a little longer.

- 1. In 5:1-5, what is the awful thing happening in the church of Corinth; what does Paul say is the right response to such sin; how does that benefit the person who sinned and the church?
- 2. In 5:6-8, what does Paul mean to be a new unleavened batch; how can we live such truth in our lives?
- 3. In 5:9-11, why is Paul setting a seemingly harsher treatment for the Christians; will you be able to obey if this involves the people you really love and care for?
- 4. In 5:12-13, what is Paul calling for the church leaders to do; again, how does that benefit the person and the church; how does this apply to you?

1Cor 6 (12/1)

- 1. In 6:1-6, what does Paul want the Christians to learn to do and also not do; why does that matter?
- 2. In 6:7-8, Paul would rather have God's people be wronged and be cheated—rather than what; why would Paul want God's people to suffer such unfairness; how would this look like as we obey God's word?
- 3. In 6:9-10, God's word says that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God—can you identify your wrongdoing; despite such conclusion, in 6:11, what happens to the wrongdoers; why is that; how do you know you are part of this new conclusion?
- 4. In 6:12-20, we are warned and taught about sexual immorality—how should our freedom and what's beneficial lived out; how could our bodies be the temple of the Holy Spirit; therefore, how must we learn to live?

1Cor 7 (12/2)

When we read this chapter, we must have the whole counsel of God in mind, because if we take this chapter as absolute, then, there will be contradictions with other parts of God's word. Let's remember, this is a part of a greater whole; therefore, the greater must illumine the smaller part. Our God does not contradict Himself; He does not lie or change His minds like us, who vacillates our thoughts one way and then to the other.

- May I encourage you to memorize and meditate 1Cor 7:35, and see behind the
 difficult passages in God's word, here and everywhere, His intention is always for
 what's best for His glory, which He delights to include our good in His glory (Isa
 48:17-18).
- 5. In 7:1-5 (reflect also 6:12-20), what are the reasons to not have sexual relations; what are the reasons to have sexual relations; and how can spouses help one another?
- 6. Why does Paul teach that the unmarried life is a better life; how can that be also true to the married life; how can this truth be applicable to your life, without being irresponsible in your present situation?
- 7. Paul was more concerned about the attitudes of believers than their circumstances—so how are we to understand when he teaches us to accept our situation as if God has assigned them (7:17, 20, 26)?
- 8. In 7:39, as Christians, when we marry, who are we to marry; and if we haven't, how are we to cry out to our God, who is merciful and gracious?

1Cor 8 (12/3)

- 1. In 8:1-3, how can we tell if we are known by God; in other words, the more we know our God, the more of what should be growing in our lives; how is it happening in your life?
- 2. In 8:8, the Jews must have been thinking what they ate or not, mattered in their relationship with God—why do you think that was; how did Jesus resolved this issue; how is it applicable to us?
- 3. In 8:9, what should the exercise of our rights not do; why do you think that's important; how can we live this truth?
- 4. In 8:11-13, what did Jesus do for the weak brothers and sisters; and when we sin against them, whom are we also sinning against; how can we best keep Him the focus when we are dealing with other people?

1Cor 9 (12/4)

After spending your time at His feet in His word, will you also spend a little time to reflect and send me some feedbacks for our daily QT questions I send?

- 1. Has the questions help you to seek His face more; and if so, how?
- 2. How can I help you to sit at His feet better?
- 3. What have you learned; what are you thankful for; what are your challenges?
- 4. How can you sit more humbly, more attentively, more hungry to learn, to grow and to love our Lord more?—Remember, the more we know Him, the more we will experience His love, and the more we will love Him.

QT questions

- 1. In 9:1-14, what does Paul want the people to learn about the work of an apostle/preachers?
- 2. We live in a world where we are constantly bombarded with the message that we need to claim every right we have—despite his rights, how does Paul approach his duties; what principle can all God's people learn about fulfilling our duties?
- 3. In our world, we crave success and power—so, why would Paul act insanely foolish and become a slave and weak; how can we be obedient to God's way where, even our own feelings, usually pulls us in the world's direction?
- 4. In 9:24-27, we are taught to run in such a way as to get the prize, and to do it in such a way that we will not be disqualified for the prize after all of our efforts—will you take the time to evaluate and examine your life under these two standards that Paul was striving after?

1Cor 10 (12/6)

- 1. In 10:8-10, we have three OT events—will you connect each verse to each event and summarize what happened; and what does God desire for us to learn from them?
- 2. In 10:13, God gives us a wonderful promise—what is that promise; and how is this verse connected to the previous verses?
- 3. In 10:23-24, how does our God desire for us to use our freedom; how are you learning to obey this Scripture in your life?
- 4. In 10:31-33, we are given, probably, the most important Scripture for the purpose of the lives of God's people—what is the purpose of the lives of God's people; how should this life's purpose impact all of our lives; and how is it impacting your life?

1Cor 11 (12/7)

Many thanks to many of you for sending your feedback to me. You still can, if you like.

In chapters 11-14, Paul is addressing some of the foolishness going on during the worship services in the Corinthian church. How sad to think that even when God's people are doing the most sacred thing, still we can do so with a sinful heart. May I encourage all of us to read these chapters to not merely understand what was going on, but to read them with great humility, so that our hearts will be filled with God's glory and not our ugliness.

- 1. In 11:1, I am so humbled and challenged to hear Paul exhorts the people to follow him—why would he want God's people to follow him, when he is not our Lord; in what ways should the people follow you, and what are the ways they should never follow you?
- 2. In 11:2-16, this is not about a man's higher position than a woman—so, why are we taught about the different behaviors that define a man and a woman?
 - Please understand, although Eve was created from Adam's rib, this does not make her inferior to him—let's remember, men are derived from women because men are born from women. We really must learn to humbly submit to one another.

- 3. In 11:17-34, what was happening during the Lord's Supper in this church; what should they have been doing instead?
- 4. In 11:23-26, how does the bread and the cup represent Christ; and how does it proclaim the Lord's death until He comes; how can you best prepare your hearts to receive the Lord's Supper?

1Cor 12 (12/8)

- 1. In 12:3, what will the Spirit of God guide you to say and not say; what is the Holy Spirit's purpose here on earth (Jn 16:13-14); how can you be sure you also have the Spirit of God in you?
- 2. What spiritual gift do you believe you have or have been told you have; how has God used you and your gift to edify His church; when you have not served, what's usually been the reason for not doing so and how can you overcome that?
- 3. God clearly wants us to see our spiritual gifts and serving the church, like the way our bodies work—along with this chapter, will you also examine your body and see how they work and what insights you have learned; and how can you find ways to implement them into building our church more for His glory?
- 4. In 12:7, why did God give us His spiritual gifts; what would a common good look like in our church?

1Cor 13 (12/9)

This is the love chapter.

- 1. In 13:1-3, what does love have to do with spiritual gifts; how is love meant to work with spiritual gifts?—Remember, love is a fruit and not a gift of the Spirit (Gal 5:22).
- 2. In 13:4-8, there are 16 listings of what love is and is not—will you replace the word love (or it) with Jesus and write out these 16 listings; will you write once again the 16 listings, and this time, place your name where Jesus/love is; will you try to memorize them throughout the day and meditate on a few, as sweetly as you can?—May our Lord give you much joy and also tears throughout your meditation.
- 3. In 13:8, love is greater than what; why do you think that is?
- 4. In 13:13, what three things remain; will you explain why each one is so precious; and how do you think love is the greatest among these?

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Love is patient	Jesus is patient	(Your name) is patient
Love is kind	Jesus is kind	() is kind
Love does not envy	Jesus does not envy	() does not envy
Love does not boast	Jesus does not boast	() does not boast
Love is not proud	Jesus is not proud	() is not proud
Love does not dishonor	Jesus does not dishonor	() does not dishonor
Love is not self seeking	Jesus is not self seeking	() is not self seeking

Love is not easily angered	Jesus is not easily angered	() is not easily angered
Love keeps no record of wrongs	Jesus keeps no record of wrongs	() keeps no record of wrongs
Love does not delight in evil	Jesus does not delight in evil	() does not delight in evil
Love rejoices with the truth	Jesus rejoices with the truth	() rejoices with the truth
Love always protects	Jesus always protects	() always protects
Love always trusts	Jesus always trusts	() always trusts
Love always hopes	Jesus always hopes	() always hopes
Love always perseveres	Jesus always perseveres	() always perseveres
Love never fails	Jesus never fails	() never fails

1Cor 14 (12/10)

May I remind us, when the teaching is difficult, it is then a time to think more, to speak slow, to come to a conclusion slower, and be very thoughtful and intentional, how and where you apply it.

- 1. In 14:1-17, clearly both the gifts of tongue and prophesy are blessings—so, who and how do the gifts of tongue and prophesy edify; though both bless, which does Paul desire for the people to excel more, why?
- 2. In 14:22-25, we are told that if an unbeliever comes to the church's worship, they can be convicted of sin and exclaim, "God is really among you!"—can you explain how this can happen; how can our church experience this?
- 3. In 14:33-35, we know God did not make women inferior to men—so why is God's word teaching us that women should remain silent in the churches; what and where are the roles for women in the church?
- 4. In 14:26, 33, 40, what's the principle for all God's people to learn from this chapter; how would this be applicable to our church; how would this apply in your life or family life?

1Cor 15 (12/11)

We can say that this chapter is like a <u>key</u> to our faith—if people do not believe this, then they will be locked out, but, if they are able to believe, then it opens to a life of wonders and hope. So, may I encourage us, please take deliberate steps, make each one count, because the better you understand, the firmer your faith will stand.

- 1. In 15:1-4, Paul teaches us, "By this gospel you are saved,"—so what is the content of the gospel; how could this gospel save us from our sins?
- 2. In 15:14, Paul says that his preaching and our faith are useless—if, what did not happened; will you explain why that is so?
- 3. Think of a person you know that does not believe in Jesus, will you explain to that person 15:55-56; now think of yourself, how is it applicable to your life?

- 4. In 15:35-58, how could it be possible that mortal and perishable people be clothed with imperishability and immortality, isn't that possible only in the movies; how can a person die and be raised in such a completely different nature, isn't that impossible; do you really believe these unbelievable things taught here, if so, please describe what your transformation would look it?
 - (The end picture of our faith is Jesus. Our final glory is to reflect His glory. The 16 listings in 1Corinthians 13 would also become our image, as they describe Christ.)

1Cor 16 (12/13)

- 1. In 16:1-4, why was there a collection on the first day of every week; why were they asked to set aside in keeping with their income; what can God's people learn from such examples?
- 2. In 16:5-9, as much as Paul wanted to go to the other regions, he decide to stay at Ephesus—what was pulling him to stay; what else was he expecting to encounter; why should he stay when it was probably not safe to stay; what can we learn to apply in our lives?
- 3. In 16:13-14, we are told to do five things—which of the five would our God desire for you to pray, wrestle, and obey more?
- 4. In 16:19-24, Paul's final greetings are not just feel good words, for his choice of words are peculiar—greet warmly, holy kiss, be cursed, grace of Christ and my love in Christ—will you summarize in your own way how Paul is greeting here?