

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.

The builder's work
The foundation
The construction crew's work
The inspection
God's grace

3:10 According to the grace of God given to me,
like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation,
and someone else is building upon it.

Let each one take care
how he builds upon it.

11 For no one can
lay a foundation
other than that which is laid,
which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones,
wood, hay, straw—

13 each one's work will become manifest,
for the Day will disclose it,
because it will be revealed by fire,
and the fire will test
what sort of work each one has done.

14 If the work that anyone has built
on the foundation survives,
he will receive a reward.

15 If anyone's work is burned up,
he will suffer loss,
though he himself will be saved, but
only as through fire.

1. What word picture does Paul use to describe the relationship among the leaders in the Corinthian church?
2. What role does Paul play in the analogy?

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3. What role do the others play in the analogy?
4. What is the building in the analogy? (Look back at verse 9.)
5. Who does Paul credit as the source of his skill and wisdom?
6. What was the foundation that Paul laid? (Think back on our previous lessons.)
 - a. How did he lay the foundation?
7. Why does Paul refer to Jesus Christ as the foundation in the analogy?
8. If the foundation is Christ and the gospel, how do we build on the foundation?

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 again.

9. In grammar, what is an imperative?

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- a. What is the imperative in verses 10-15?

(Note: In verse 10, the Greek word for 'take care' is 'blepeto' and it speaks of intentionality.)

10. In the analogy, what is the difference between "gold, silver, precious stones" and "wood, hay straw"?

11. What might building with gold, silver, and precious stones look like in real life?

12. What might building with wood, hay, and straw look like in real life?

13. When does the building inspection take place?

- a. What is "the Day" and where has Paul already referred to it in 1 Corinthians?

14. Who is the building inspector?

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15. How does the building inspector test the work?

16. What is the result for those who build well?

17. What is the result for those who build poorly?

18. Even if what a person has built is burned up, why is that person still saved? (Use the imagery in the analogy.)

❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 again.

19. What incentive does Paul give to encourage good construction?

20. Do you think that a desire for reward is a valid motivation?

a. How does Hebrews 11:6 influence your answer?

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21. Can we just play it safe and not build on the foundation at all? Explain.

22. Does Paul focus more on the workers or on the content and quality of the construction?

a. How should this influence us?

23. In what ways does this analogy encourage, convict, or inspire you?

24. How is this analogy of a construction crew helpful in shaping how you view the church and your place in the church?

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25. How has God used you to build up the church in the past?

26. List some ways in which you can be intentional in building up the church in the present and future.

In preparation for Sunday, pray for the construction crew that is faithfully building up the church at Summit Woods.