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**In Class Worksheet**

**Session 12**

***1 Corinthians***

**In Ten Words or Less – The apostle Paul tackles sin problems in the church at Corinth.** *KYB*, page 72

***Our Journey Thus Far:***

***We can connect the first seven books of the New Testament with this little***

***“TRAIN OF THOUGHT”***

Matthew = The promised Deliverer and King has come! 🡒 Mark = But He isn’t going to rule yet: He came to serve, and He wants us to serve, too. 🡒 Luke = He’s one of us! So He understands how hard serving is. 🡒 John = But He’s also God! So He can enable us to do God’s will, 🡒 Acts = which is to be witnesses wherever we are. 🡒 Romans = The gospel is the message that we are to share. 🡒

1 Cor.

= Oops! There are a few obstructions we need to remove to get us back on track.

**Patterns of Paul Found in 1 Corinthians**

As we mentioned in the worksheet for the book of Romans, two patterns seen in Paul’s writings are expressions of his affection for his readers and long sentences, packed with food for the soul. Both of these are found in the first eight verses of 1 Corinthians. Verses 1-3 and verses 4-8 form two long sentences, rich in meaning for those to whom he is writing (which includes us today, as verse 2 makes clear). And in verse 4 Paul expresses his gratitude to God for these believers, as well as his confidence that God will sustain them to the end. He refers to them as “my beloved children” in 4:14, “my beloved brothers” in 15:58, and he ends his letter by saying, “My love be with you all in Christ Jesus.”

**A Deviation from His Pattern**

We also said that Paul typically gives doctrine before he makes practical application of what he is teaching, and that the ratio of teaching to application is about 1:1, i.e. Paul devotes roughly equal space to both in his writings. The book of 1 Corinthians does not follow this general pattern, however. Paul is dealing with two sets of concerns in this book, and he works his way systematically through them all.

* The first set consists of reports he has heard about the church concerning problems that have developed, and he wastes no time in dealing with these (see 1:11).
* The second set are questions that the Corinthians themselves have asked him to address, and he generally begins his answer to these with the phrase “now concerning \_\_\_\_\_” (marriage, food offered to idols, spiritual gifts,etc. See 7:1, 7:25, 8:1, 12:1, 15:12, 16:1).

**A B.L.E.S.S. Principle** – Paul shares his personal testimony of salvation with the believers in 15:3-11.