

The Book of I Corinthians

17

Morning Devotions

Read a Scripture passage of your choice. Talk with the Lord as you read his Word. When you are finished, go back and select one or two verses which you believe God is using to speak to you and meditate thoughtfully and prayerfully on what he is saying.

Morning Study

Yesterday we read through the first six chapters of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. Now we will begin to look at this section closely. In **chapters 1-6** Paul deals with the divisions that have arisen in the church, and the flagrant sin – incest, lawsuits, immorality – that is being condoned. This section can be divided into three subsections. Read each subsection and answer for yourself the questions associated with them. Type out your answers (or jot them down on a piece of paper) and file them together with your morning study.

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-2:16

- What was Paul appealing to the Corinthians for? (**1:10-17**).
- What results if you preach the gospel with “words of human wisdom”? (**1:17-31**).
- What is the secret wisdom of God that has been revealed to us in Christ? (**2:6-10**).

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-4:21

- Why did Paul say the Corinthians were still “mere infants in Christ,” “worldly,” and “acting like mere men”? (**3:1-4**).
- How does Paul describe ministries? (**3:5-23**).
- What effect was “tak[ing] pride in one man over against another” having on the Corinthians? (**4:6-21**).

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-6:20

- Why did Paul not want them to associate with the immoral brother? (**5:1-13**).
- How should disputes between believers be handled? (**6:1-11**).
- In Christ, what has our physical body become? (**6:12-20**).

MEMORY VERSE

For I resolved to know nothing
while I was with you except Jesus Christ
and him crucified.

1 Corinthians 2:2

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!