



# MESSY church

A STUDY OF 1ST CORINTHIANS



MESSY

world

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MESSY

world





MESSY

world

Think and  
think well...



MESSY

world

Think and  
think well...

Pray and  
pray hard...



# MESSY

# world

Think and  
think well...



Pray and  
pray hard...



Be bold and  
courageous...



MESSY

world

● Love and love well ! ●

## What is the overall thread of this letter?

**It addresses the reality that the people in the church of Corinth, unfortunately, much of the time looked more like the broken sinful world around them than like a transformed people in their everyday lives.**

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## The big idea from the last time we did chapter 15?

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## The big idea from the last time we did chapter 15?

**The 'resurrection' not only determines and describes our future, but it determines and describes our today.**

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## The big idea for this week?

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It addresses the reality that the people in the church of Corinth, unfortunately, much of the time looked more like the broken sinful world around them than like a transformed people in their everyday lives.

## The big idea for this week?

**One of the greatest tools we have to bless others and to honor God is our money.**

A vibrant, abstract splash of various colors including blue, yellow, red, pink, and black, resembling paint splatters, located at the top of the image.

**MESSY** church

**I Corinthians 16:1-4**



## 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Paul is going to talk about money.

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Paul is going to talk about money.

- Jesus spoke often about money.
- Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables were concerned with how to handle money and possessions.
- In the Gospels, an amazing one out of ten verses (288 in all) deal directly with the subject of money.



## **I Corinthians 16:1-4**

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Paul is going to relate to helping people in need with our money.



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### **Luke 3:7-14**

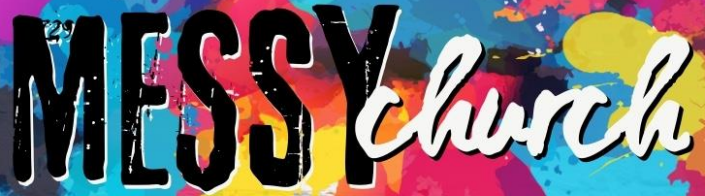
<sup>7</sup> He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

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And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, “**Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.**” <sup>12</sup> Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”



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Paul is going to instruct the people to give proactively and proportionately.

**Paul is going to model crystal clear integrity.**

## 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

- <sup>1</sup> Now concerning the collection for the saints:  
as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do.
- <sup>2</sup> On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside  
and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting  
when I come.
- <sup>3</sup> And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to  
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7:1 Now concerning the matters about which  
you wrote: *sexual morality*

7:25 Now concerning the betrothed  
(engaged)...

8:1 Now concerning food offered to idols:....

12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, ...

**16:1 Now concerning the collection ...**

16:12 Now concerning our brother Apollos, ...

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## Greek: charis

**Meaning:** a grace, a favor, a thankfulness,  
a credit, a gracious work of undeserved kindness

### **Used in Christian culture:**

graciousness, of manner or action,  
the divine influence upon the heart,  
and its reflection in our lives, behaviors,  
and decisions.

## 6:1-4

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## Historical Background of the Jerusalem Relief Effort

- Famine (Acts 11:27–30), persecution, and economic disparity had left many Judean Christians in need.
- The Apostolic Council (Galatians 2:10) urged remembrance of the poor, and Paul made this a hallmark of his Gentile ministry.
- Contributions were gathered across Galatia, Macedonia, Achaia, and Asia (Romans 15:24–28; 2 Corinthians 8–9), culminating in Paul's final trip to Jerusalem (Acts 24:17).

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### Acts 11:27-30

- <sup>27</sup> Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.
- <sup>28</sup> And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius).
- <sup>29</sup> **So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea.**
- <sup>30</sup> And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

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### Romans 15:24-28

<sup>24</sup> I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. <sup>25</sup> **At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints.** <sup>26</sup> **For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.** <sup>27</sup> For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings. <sup>28</sup> When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you.

carry your gift to Jerusalem.

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### II Corinthians 8:1-7

<sup>1</sup> We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, <sup>2</sup> for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. <sup>3</sup> For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, <sup>4</sup> begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— <sup>5</sup> and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. <sup>6</sup> Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. <sup>7</sup> But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

carry your gift to Jerusalem.

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### Acts 24:13-17

<sup>13</sup> Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. <sup>14</sup> But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, <sup>15</sup> having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. <sup>16</sup> So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. <sup>17</sup> **Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings.**

carry your gift to Jerusalem.  
If it seems advisable that I should



## 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

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## I Corinthians

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## as an act of worship... 1 Thimians 16:1-4

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## 1 Corinthians 16 intentionally and thoughtfully...

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- <sup>2</sup> On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.
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1-4

**proportionately...**

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## I Corinthians 16

**uncoerced...**

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as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do.

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**credible...**

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If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

The image features a white brick wall as the background. At the top and bottom edges, there are vibrant, multi-colored paint splatters in shades of blue, yellow, red, and purple. In the center of the wall, there is a black rectangular box containing the text "So.....therefore.....what now?".

So.....therefore.....what now?



- We intentionally allocate for benevolence and missions.



- We intentionally allocate for benevolence and missions.
- Transparency: we are committed to be fully transparent with the funds we give to benevolence and missions with a plurality of oversight levels.



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- Transparency: we are committed to be fully transparent with the funds we give to benevolence and missions with a plurality of oversight levels.
- We recognize that wealthier congregations have an ethical and moral responsibility to assist persecuted or disaster-stricken believers abroad, echoing the original Jerusalem fund.

# Core 5 of our Missions focus...

- **Haiti:** Children's Feeding Program  
Women's Program
- **Cedar's Network in the Middle East:**  
Schools for displaced children
- **Bulgaria:** Food for an orphanage in Roman  
Scholarships for missionary kids
- **Work Day w/ New City Fellowship:**  
Wheelchair ramps for the disabled
- **Mountains of Asia:** Re-entry respite for  
missionaries coming back stateside

## What is the overall thread of this letter?

It addresses the reality that the people in the church of Corinth, unfortunately, much of the time looked more like the broken sinful world around them than like a transformed people in their everyday lives.

## The big idea for this week?

**One of the greatest tools we have to bless others and to honor God is our money.**

729

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