

QUESTIONS TO PONDER--What did you find that was new, interesting, confusing, etc. in your reading this week.

1. Sunday, March 5; 1Cor. 2:6-11; God's Wisdom is Revealed by the Spirit. Read verse 6-10. What is the difference between the wisdom God has for believers versus the wisdom of the world? Which believers will more clearly understand God's wisdom (6)? How does a believer become mature? What is the special nature of God's wisdom (7, 9)? Can "just anyone" understand God's wisdom (8)? How is God's wisdom revealed to us (10)? Why is the Holy Spirit the chosen Deliverer of "the deep things of God" (11)? **Personal Application:** How deep are you willing to go with God and what commitment does that take? Are any changes necessary?

2. Monday, March 6; 1Cor.2:12-16; Holy Spirit in us Equals the Mind of Christ. How are we able to understand Spiritual Truth (12)? When did you or I receive the gift of the Holy Spirit? Have you or I actively invited the Holy Spirit to begin working mightly within us? Why could Paul be trusted as a teacher and confidant (13)? Would everyone in the Corinthian church (and every person now who reads Corinthians be able to understand it (14)? What two types of discernment/judgment is a Spirit-filled person able to make and why (15-16)? **Personal Application:** What does it mean to have the mind of Christ?

3. Tuesday, March 7; 1 Cor. 3:1-9; A New Mindset: No Longer Worldly but Co-Workers with God. What rebuke does Jesus (through Paul) give to the Corinthians (1-3)? What does it mean to be "worldly and is there any worldliness in your or me? What are two evidences of worldliness (3)? What key issues were the Corinthians to comprehend (4-5)? Why must leaders be careful to remember that they are "only servants"? Who did Paul want to point to instead of himself (6-7)? How is this idea reminiscent of John the Baptist in John 3:30? As you and I take on God's assignments (5), what must we remember in humility (8-9)? What reward will you and I receive (8)? **Personal Application:** How are you honored to be a "co-worker" in God's service (9)?

4. Wednesday, March 8; 1 Cor. 3:10-17; Survivable Work/The Temple of God. How is Jesus Christ the foundation of your life or mine (10-11)? What does it mean to build on the foundation with things made of gold, silver, costly jewels versus wood, hay, stubble (12)? How is the quality of our work revealed (13)? Which type of work survives unto eternity and which doesn't (14-15)? Read the Bible notes on 16-17 regarding the word YOU as plural (the church) and not singular in this chapter. Concerning the body of Christ as the "temple of God", do you sense the Holy Spirit residing in your church's body? What causes destruction of unity in the Spirit in the body of Christ? **Personal Application:** Make a list of survivable work you are doing now. Make another list of things that won't survive. Do you or I have time that can be better spent?

5. Thursday, March 9; 1 Cor. 3:18-23; Wisdom versus Foolishness/All Things are Yours/Double Layer of Love and Protection. Paraphrase in your own words what Paul is saying in 18-20. Why does God want people to become "fools" in order to become truly wise? Why does worldly wisdom prove to be futile? Why should all boasting about human leaders cease (21)? What does Paul mean by saying "All things are yours" (21b-22)? How does knowing "all things are mine" change the way we live on a daily basis? How are you and I wrapped in a double layer of love and protection (23)? **Personal Application:** Write a prayer of humility and thanksgiving based on today's reading.

6. Friday, March 10; 1 Cor. 4: 1-13; Qualities of the True Servant. In this passage, Paul explains what a true servant of Christ is like (1). To whom is the servant of Christ faithful (2)? Who determines this faithfulness and who doesn't ((3-4)? How long does Paul tell us to wait to know for sure (5)? What is Paul's argument for remaining humble (6-7)? Paul uses sarcasm according to the Bible notes in 8-10. What is his message in these verses? How is Paul willing to suffer for the cause of Christ (11-13)? With what attitude does he respond to his suffering?

7. Saturday, March 11; 1 Cor. 4:14-21; Imitate Paul to know how to Live Life in Christ Jesus. What is Paul's heart for the Corinthians (14-16)? What is the goal and why (16)? How will they begin to live for Christ more effectively (17)? How are you regularly reminded of how Christ lived? What can the arrogant, then and now, expect (18-21)? What are the two ways of learning (21)? How do you or I prefer to learn? **Personal Application:** Write your thoughts about verse 20, "The kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power" and how that relates to life in Christ. **Cindy Oury. 3/3/17**

