

The Bible - Week 37 (September 26th)

Eric Swanson / General

Corinthians

Author: Both are Paul

Date: 55 & 56 when Paul was in Ephesus and Philippi

Audience: The church in Corinth and the surrounding communities. They were the “Sin City” of their time.

Reason: Paul was trying to help set the church on a right trajectory after getting feedback from first hand accounts.

Theme: Love is our reason for everything.

Key Verse:

1 Corinthians 16:14 (CEB)

Everything should be done in love.

2 Corinthians 2:14 CEB

But thank God, who is always leading us around through Christ as if we were in a parade. He releases the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere through us.

Sections: Reports from Chloe’s people (Ch 1-6), Questions from the Corinthian’s Letter (7-16) 2 Corinthians Paul’s Defense of Himself (Ch 1-7), The Poor in Jerusalem (Ch 8-9), Pauls attach on others (Ch 10-13)

Key Words: Spirit, Body, Love, Church

Basic Intro: These are two of the letters Paul wrote to Corinth (maybe he wrote 4). The people were divided into who they liked as a better leader, who baptized whom and the like. The church was not in a healthy condition. The

second letter is about Paul defending himself from another group of the church.

Questions for Discussion:

- **In chapter 5:3-5 there is a tough love moment. How has this worked/not worked in your experience and why?**
- **Have you ever been divided on something like who baptized whom? What are the things that keep us divided on faith? What ones are worth division and what things should we lay down for the sake of the church?**
- **Examine a time when someone attacked your character. How did you handle it?**
- **2 Corinthians spends time with the poor, how might we best serve the poor today?**