

Understanding 1 Corinthians
1 Cor. 15:58 (p. 1223)

Intro

I. Give _____ to the work of ministry...

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable...v. 58

First Corinthians addresses the _____ of ministry on the mission field; it gives us a _____ of what frontline ministry is really like.

There were a lot of _____ in the church in Corinth but also a lot of _____; it was a young, _____ church with a lot of pride.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus... so that you are not lacking in any gift.... it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ... I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. (1:4,7,11,12; 3:1)

There was sexual immorality and _____ against one another, along with questions about _____, divorce, singleness, and _____.

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you... brother goes to law against brother... Now concerning the matters about which you wrote.... The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.... Now concerning food offered to idols....my beloved, flee from idolatry. 5:1,6:6, 7:1-3,8:1,10:14

This was not a sleepy little church or a nice _____ little church; it was an _____ but unstable congregation that could be _____.

Frontline ministry with non-Christians and _____ Christians requires a lot of patience and _____.

be steadfast, immovable...v. 58

Unchurched people often need _____ instruction in the _____ of Christian life; people often bring _____ practices with them into the church.

"All things are lawful," but not all things are helpful... Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor. ... So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. ... Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ...When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat.... One goes hungry, another gets drunk.... Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.... God is not a God of confusion but of peace. (10:23,24,31;11:1,20,21;13:4,5;14:33)

...be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...v.58

Don't let the _____ of outreach ministry hold you back; always _____ in the work of the Lord.

II. Because it's _____ it.

Having addressed all these pressing _____ in the church, Paul reminds them of the _____ and that Christ is _____ from the dead.

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you...that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared... 15:1,3,4

If Christ is risen, then we will _____ with Him one day; the _____ resurrection means that all our efforts are _____.

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.... For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive....Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven....Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 15:19,20,22,49,51,52

We don't always see _____ from our labors in this life, but the _____ will reveal the true results of your work.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. v.58

Your kingdom labors will bear _____ fruit; _____ done for Jesus will be rewarded one day.

Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap... (Gal. 6:9)

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last" (C.T. Studd)

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Frontline ministry with non-Christians and new Christians requires a lot of patience and perseverance.

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Unchurched people often need practical instruction in the basics of Christian life; people often bring worldly practices with them into the church.

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