

**INTRODUCTION:**

- 1) TODAY WE WILL BE LOOKING AT 1 AND 2 CORINTHIANS, LETTERS ABOUT CHURCH PROBLEMS

**THINGS WE WILL LOOK AT IN THIS LESSON:**

- 1) 1 CORINTHIANS
- 2) 2 CORINTHIANS

**HOMEWORK REVIEW:**

Write the appropriate subtheme beside each reference in Romans in the adjacent chart...

Five Aspects of Righteousness in Romans	
Romans	Subtheme
1-3	Sin represents the need for righteousness.
4-5	Justification is the provision for righteousness.
6-8	Sanctification is the result of righteousness.
9-11	The width of righteousness includes Jews and Gentiles
12-15	Service is the fruit of righteousness

**PART 1 – 1 CORINTHIANS:**

FIGURE 1)

Dates Related to 1 and 2 Corinthians		
Date (AD)	Event	Scriptures
52	Paul evangelized Corinth on his second missionary trip.	Acts 18:1-17
Spring, 55-56	Paul traveled from Antioch, Syria, to Ephesus on his third missionary trip. While there, he wrote 1 Corinthians. Timothy carried the letter to the church (Gundry 1994, 285).	Acts 18:23-21:26; 1 Cor. 16:5-8
Fall, 55-56	Paul traveled from Ephesus to Troas after the Feast of Pentecost. Titus had agreed to meet him there, but was late with the report on Corinth (Hughes 1977, xvii). Titus caught up with Paul in Macedonia. Paul then wrote 2 Corinthians and, afterward, went to see the Corinthians for the third time.	2 Cor. 2:13; 7:5-7; 12:14; 13:1

**Q 1) WHAT DID IT MEAN “TO ACT LIKE A CORINTHIAN”?**

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**Q 2) WHAT WAS APHRODITE KNOWN AS?**

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**Q 3) WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEOPLE OF CORINTH WHO ACCEPTED THE GOSPEL?**

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**FIGURE 2)**



**Q 4) BESIDES SIN, WHAT WAS CORINTH FAMOUS FOR?**

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**Q 5) HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ESTIMATED TO HAVE LIVED IN CORINTH?**

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**Q 6) WHEN DID PAUL FIRST VISIT CORINTH AND HOW LONG DID HE MINISTER THERE?**

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**Q 7) WHAT DID PAUL BEGIN TO DO WHEN SOME JEWS BECAME UPSET?**

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**Q 8) WHAT PROBLEMS DID PAUL CORRECT WHEN WRITING 1 CORINTHIANS?**

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**Q 9) WHAT QUESTIONS DID THE CORINTHIANS HAVE THAT PAUL WROTE TO ANSWER?**

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**OUTLINE OF 1 CORINTHIANS...**

- I. Introduction, 1:1–9
- II. Discussion of Problems Paul Knew, 1–6
  - A. The problem of divisions (1:10–4:21)
  - B. The problem of the immoral brother (5:1–13)
  - C. The problem of lawsuits (6:1–11)
  - D. The problem of sexual immorality (6:12–20)
- III. Answers to the Letter from Corinth, 7–16
  - A. Questions about marriage (7:1–40)
  - B. Questions about conscience (8:1–10:33)
  - C. Questions about head coverings (11:1–16)
  - D. Questions about communion (11:17–34)
  - E. Questions about spiritual gifts (12:1–14:40)
  - F. Questions about the resurrection of the dead (15:1–58)
  - G. Questions about giving (16:1–4)
- IV. Conclusion, 16:5–24

**FIGURE 3)**

Problems and Solutions in 1 Corinthians 1–6		
1 Cor.	Problem	Solution/Principle
1:10–4:21	Believers were divided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live by God's wisdom, not worldly wisdom (1:18–2:16).</li> <li>• Become spiritually mature rather than fleshly (3:1–9).</li> <li>• Appreciate the ministry of all church leaders (3:5–22).</li> </ul>
5:1–13	Sexual sin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The church must discipline the sinning believer (5:2–7).</li> <li>• The purpose of discipline is to protect the church from sin and restore the sinner to Christ and the church.</li> </ul>
6:1–11	Believers were accusing one another in court.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The church must judge and settle such matters outside of the government courts (6:1–5).</li> <li>• Those living sinful lives will not inherit God's kingdom (6:9–11).</li> </ul>
6:12–20	Believers may have been tempted to return to their old sexual sins with temple prostitutes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Believers must not be mastered by anything of the world (6:12).</li> <li>• Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (6:19).</li> <li>• We are not our own, but were bought with a price. Therefore, we must honor God with our bodies (6:19–20).</li> </ul>

**FIGURE 4)**

Questions and Answers in 1 Corinthians 7–16		
1 Cor.	Topic/Question	Principles/Answers
7:1–40	<i>Marriage:</i>	Because of our fleshly needs, it is good for each person to have a spouse (7:2). Ideally, the single life is the best for ministry (7:38), but it is better to marry than to live with lust (7:9). Each person should fulfill the role of God's calling (7:17).
8:1–10:33	<i>Conscience:</i> Should believers eat food sacrificed to idols?	<p>Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up (8:1). Sacrifice your freedom if it will cause a weak believer to stumble (8:9–13).</p> <p>Paul gave up his rights and became all things to all people to win some (9:1–23). Paul made his body his slave (9:24–27).</p> <p>If you think you are standing firm, be careful that you do not fall like the Israelites fell (10:1–12).</p> <p>Nobody should seek his own good, but rather the good of others (10:24).</p> <p>Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks, or the church (10:32).</p>

FIGURE 5)

Questions and Answers in 1 Corinthians 7–16 (continued)		
1 Cor.	Topic/ Question	Principles/Answers
11:1–16	<i>Head coverings:</i> Should women wear them?	The head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God (11:3). In Corinth, women showed submission by wearing a veil.
11:17–34	<i>Communion:</i> Why were death and sickness a problem at Corinth?	The bread and juice represent the body and blood of Jesus. We take them to remember who He is and the new covenant He made with us (11:23–26). Those who take communion should recognize that it represents the Lord. Taking it shows that we are in the right relationship with Him. Partakers must show love and deference to fellow participants, to keep from dishonoring Christ. The Lord’s discipline is to keep us from being condemned with the world (11:27–34).
12:1–14:40	<i>Spiritual gifts:</i> How is the purpose of tongues unlike other gifts? Whom does prophecy edify? Why should most praying in tongues be done privately?	There are different kinds of gifts, service, and work, but the same Spirit, Lord, and God. He is the source of all (12:4–6). The Spirit gives gifts to each believer as He desires (12:11). There are many parts, but one body (12:12–30). Eagerly desire the greater gifts (12:31). Love is the key as we minister our spiritual gifts to others (13:1). Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially prophecy (14:1). He who prays in tongues edifies himself. Like Paul, we should do this often, in private (14:4, 18). In church, we should seek to prophesy, or speak in tongues and interpret, so that we edify others. Try to excel in gifts that build up the church (14:1–25). Be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues, but do all in an orderly manner (14:39–40).
15:1–58	<i>Resurrection:</i> Is there really a resurrection? What will the resurrection body be like? Will all believers die?	We are saved by the gospel if we hold firmly to it. Otherwise, we believed in vain (15:2). Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day. Many witnesses saw Him (15:3–8). If there is no resurrection, Jesus is not raised, and our faith is useless (15:12–19). But Christ has indeed been raised. He was first. Then when He comes, all who belong to Him will rise (15:20–28). Do not be misled. Bad company corrupts good character. Come back to your senses and stop sinning (15:33–34). The body that we put into the grave is like a seed. It will be raised as a glorious, spiritual body. As we have borne the image of the earthly Adam, we will be like the heavenly Adam (15:35–49). We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, at the last trumpet (15:51).
16:1–4	<i>Giving</i>	Paul encouraged weekly giving in the church (16:1–2).

**PART 2 – 2 CORINTHIANS:**

**Q 10) HOW DID THE FALSE TEACHERS QUESTION PAUL'S CHARACTER AND AUTHORITY?**

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**Q 11) WHAT WAS PAUL'S MAIN PURPOSE IN WRITING 2 CORINTHIANS?**

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**OUTLINE OF 2 CORINTHIANS...**

- I. Ephesus to Macedonia: Paul's Defense of His Apostolic Ministry, 1–7
  - A. Greeting (1:1–2)
  - B. Thanks for God's comfort (1:3–11)
  - C. The reason Paul changed his travel plans (1:12–2:4)
  - D. Forgive the disciplined believer (2:5–11)
  - E. Ministers of the new covenant (2:12–3:6)
  - F. The glory of the new covenant (3:7–18)
  - G. Treasures in clay jars (4)
  - H. Our heavenly dwelling (5:1–10)
  - I. The ministry of reconciling the lost (5:11–6:10)
  - J. A spiritual father's appeal to his children (6:11–7:4)
  - K. The meeting with Titus (7:5–16)
- II. Macedonia's Example: The Collection for Poor Believers at Jerusalem, 8–9
  - A. Paul's encouragement to be generous (8:1–15)
  - B. Titus and others to care for the offering (8:16–9:5)
  - C. The results of sowing generously (9:6–15)
- III. Macedonia to Corinth: Paul's Contrast of Himself with False Apostles, 10–13:10
  - A. Paul's defense of his authority and mission (10)
  - B. Paul forced into foolish boasting (11–12)
  - C. Final warnings (13:1–10)
- IV. Conclusion, 13:11–14



FIGURE 6)

False Apostles and Fleshly Leaders	True Apostles and Spiritual Leaders	2 Corinthians
Act as if they were lords over others	Humbly work with believers	1:24
Rely on humans to recommend them	Produce good fruits and results that speak for them	3:1–3
Depend on themselves	Depend on God	3:4–6; 4:7
Practice secret, shameful ways; deceive people and distort God's Word	Are honest and open before God and others; speak the Word plainly	4:2
Emphasize the seen and the temporal	Focus on the unseen and the eternal	4:18
Take pride in the outward appearance of ministry; look only on the surface	Take pride in what is in the heart	5:13; 10:7
Cause many to stumble	Are careful not to be stumbling blocks	6:3–10
Are known for wickedness, darkness, unbelief, Satan (Belial), idols, and uncleanness	Are known for righteousness, light, Christ, belief, being the temple of God, and holiness	6:14–18
Live by the world's standards; wage war as the world does; look only on the surface of things	Use spiritual weapons to fight, including prayer, the Bible, and the fruit and gifts of the Spirit	10:1–7
Commend themselves; measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with others	Boast in the Lord and are commended by Him	10:8–18
Act like they are super-apostles, boasting about how well they speak; are deceitful workers; act like they are of Christ, but they are of Satan; will one day be judged	Fear that their converts will be deceived like Eve, be led astray; receive a different Jesus, a different gospel, and a different spirit; watch over young believers, often working with no pay	11:1–15 (See 1 Cor. 4:18–21.)
Enslave, exploit, and take advantage of believers; push themselves forward and "slap" believers in the face; live a safe, easy life	May have suffered from prison, beatings, robbers, no sleep, no food, lack of clothes, and church problems; live a hard, dangerous life	11:16–33
Falsify visions and teachings; make up stories about miracles that never happened	Have visions and revelations; perform signs, wonders, and miracles	12:1–13
Are concerned mainly about themselves	Strengthen others in everything they do	12:19
Sin secretly; slander true apostles and righteous leaders	Judge sinning believers and false teachers in the church; desire to use their authority to build up the church	12:19–13:10

**HOMEWORK FOR THE WEEK:**

Study either, **the problems and solutions** and **questions and answers**, in 1 Corinthians, or, **false apostles and fleshly leaders** and **true apostles and spiritual leaders**, in 2 Corinthians. Use **figure 3-5**, or **figure 6** as guides...



