



HAMMERING IT OUT

Studies in *1 Corinthians*

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Simma Down Now 1 Corinthians 11-12



Authentic Christianity is hammered out in the details of life.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for God’s mission

In the mid-2000s SNL’s Cheri Oteri played the role of Nadine, taking orders behind a restaurant counter. If a customer complained, or just merely ordered, she would repeatedly tell them to “simma down now”, as if they were upset, when really she was the one needing to “simma down now”. The church at Corinth could also be described as needing to “simma down now”. The first thing that needed to be addressed was order in the family, especially as they conducted themselves in the church assembly. Women were acting independently of their husbands in worship in ways dishonoring to God’s order. Paul told them that Christ was the head of every man and husbands were the head of their wives. Since God was the head of Christ this

didn’t imply inequality, just submission to God’s order. The issue of head-coverings flowed from this disorder; in that culture it was natural for women to cover their heads to show their husbands covered them, and for men to have their heads uncovered to point to God’s glory as their covering. Both men and women, though, were mutually dependent since woman’s origin was from man and man’s human origin is from woman in childbirth. Paul then spoke of obligations in worship. They were to “simma down” in their abuses of the Lord’s supper. They came there to eat and drink and to show class divisions rather than to worship the Lord through the elements and to promote oneness in the body. Because of these abuses many had been disciplined by God physically.

Thus, they were to stop partaking in such an unworthy manner. Finally, Paul promoted oneness in the Body by teaching on spiritual gifts. While there were many gifts the same God gave them to each one so that all could be edified. No gift was unimportant and no gift should be devalued. Rather, there had to be mutual care, and since no one person had all the gifts, they needed each other. Because all had been baptized by the Spirit into one body and made to drink of Him, there should have been no division in this body. In all these areas they just needed to “simma down now”.

Study Questions for 1 Corinthians 11-12

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study%20questions))

<p>1. Read 1 Cor 11:1-7. What did Paul instruct (v1) and praise them for (v2)? What facts did he affirm (v3) and what does this mean? What did he say about head coverings (v6, 7) and why (v4-5, 7)?</p>	
<p>2. From 11:8-16 what creation truths are stated about men and women (v8, 9; 11-12; 14-15)? To what conclusion does this lead (v10, 13)? What was Paul’s direction if someone wanted to argue about this (v16)?</p>	
<p>3. In 11:17-22 what did Paul say to the church (v17) and why (v18). How did this show itself (v19) and what was his criticism (v20-22)? What should they have done (v22)?</p>	

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I Corinthians 11-12 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Looking at 1 Cor 11:23-26 explain the way the Lord's Supper is to be observed (v24, 25, 26) and why each element is important. Where had Paul gotten this pattern (v23)?

5. Based on 11:27-34 what is prohibited (v27) and what does this mean? What are the results of violating this (v27, 29-30, 32) and what should we do instead (v28, 31, 33-34)?

6. Read 12:1-3. What is the topic (v1) and where had the Corinthians practiced this first (v2)? What facts must be understood about this (v3)?

7. From 12:4-10 explain the function of each of the persons of the Trinity (v4, 5, 6). What does each believer have (v4, 7) and why (v7)? What gifts are identified (v8-10)?

8. According to 12:11-13 who distributes the gifts and how (v11) and what is the logical conclusion of this (v12)? What do all believers have in common (v13)?

9. In 12:14-26 what is the "body" and what composes it (v14, 20)? Why are we the "member" that we are (v18) and how should we relate to each other (v15-17, 19, 21-25, 26)?

10. In 14:27-31 who is the church (v27) and who has God appointed in it (v28)? Compare this with 12:8-10. What fact is presented (v29-30) and what instruction is given (v31)? Is this only way to build up each other (v31)?

11 Looking back over 1 Cor 11-12 in what areas did the church at Corinth needed to correct abuses (11:1-16; 11:17-34; 12) and generally what principles were they to follow to do this? How does this apply to us today?

Scripture to Remember

"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."

1 Corinthians 12:13 (NASB)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Acting Out—No Compromise (Acts 18:23-19:15)

(Using questions from Sunday's sermon, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship, helping us to grow in Christ.)

1. Share with the group the most famous person you ever met. What did that feel like and how did you treat them?
2. Read Acts 18:23-26. Describe Priscilla and Aquila and what they did for Apollos. Why was this important? Why is accountability vital in the Body and how should it work?
3. Discuss the difference between arrogance and boldness. Why do we usually consider boldness to be good, but why is it difficult for so many?
4. Talk about the 3 sources of boldness—careful study, fulfilled prophecy and personal experience. Why are all 3 important and which do you need to work on most?
5. Why is it wise to "shake the dust of your feet" and when you should do it? What should our posture be with these folks after we have done that?
6. Discuss the truths given about Satan—that he is real, that he is powerful and that we must not compromise with him. Why is it helpful to know each of these truths?
7. What is false about each of the lies that Satan uses—I can handle this, I am hopeless, I am helpless—and what is the answer to each? Share with the group which one you applies to where you are right now.