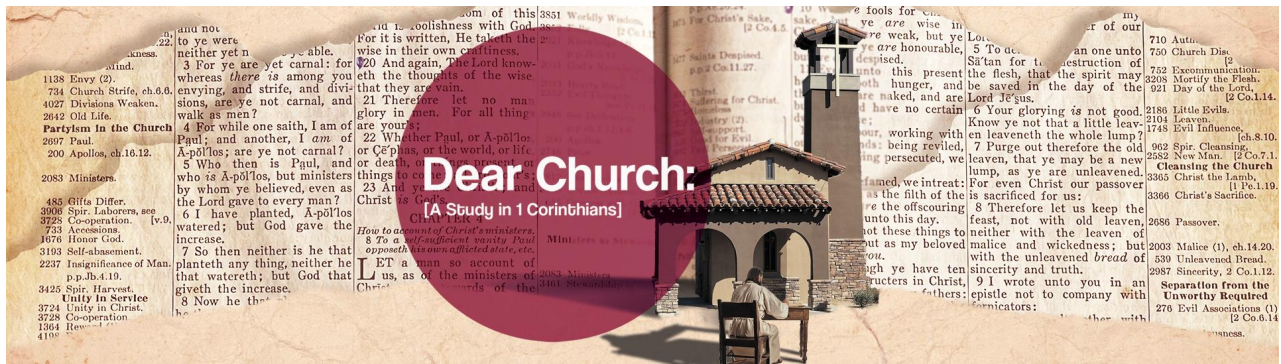




## Practical Faith

### 1 Corinthians 16:1-24 | Bob Wade

#### Four Practical Expressions of Faith:

1. Generosity (vv. 1-4)
2. Hospitality (vv. 5-12)
3. Steadfastness (vv. 13-14)
4. Love (vv. 15-24)

As a group, take time to read aloud 1 Corinthians 16.

#### Grow in Your Faith:

1. How does Paul tell the Corinthians to “plan” to be generous in verses 16:1-4? Have you ever thought of setting aside money to be ready to help with the needs of the ministry or to be ready when a need might arise in order to help other believers who are in need? How can you do so and prevent yourself from spending it?
2. Paul uses the word, “accredit” in verse 6. He seems to understand the need to be wise and mindful of the purpose and handling of the gift. How can we check the purpose and handling of gifts we want to make to ministries?
3. Paul in verse 13 says “be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong”. These traits are the traits of a mature growing Believer. How does one acquire these traits? What will you do so that one year from now you will be closer to being able to stand firm in the faith, be known as a mature man or woman and be known as a strong believer to those inside and outside the church?

#### Connect in Community:

4. Paul instructs the Corinthians in verses 5-12 to be ready to be examples of hospitality. Paul is saying to be ready, be available, be hosts to brothers and sisters who are coming. Share a time when you opened your home to another brother or sister in Christ. If you have not, are you ready to be hosts and hostesses to other believers? Is your home known for your hospitality? How can you “get there” in that regard?
5. In Chapter 16, Paul mentions many brothers and sisters who are laborers in the work of sharing the Gospel and planting churches. Paul gives recognition to those who are serving. He says that “they refresh my spirit as well as yours.” What are some names of people who refresh you? Who challenges you and stands beside you in your faith and struggles? Have you ever refreshed someone’s spirit?
6. How does one become a “refresher” to others? What would it take for you to become that person - be practical with steps that would cultivate this within you so it becomes a regular part of your routine and/or who you are?
7. In Chapter 16, Paul mentions many brothers and sisters who are laborers in the work of sharing the Gospel and planting churches. Paul gives recognition to those who are serving. He says that “they refresh my spirit as well as yours.” What are some names of people who refresh you? Who challenges you and stands beside you in your faith and struggles? Have you ever refreshed someone’s spirit? How does one become a “refresher” to others? What would it take for you to become that person?

**Live on Mission:**

8. Paul mentioned in vv. 5-9 about moving onto a new ministry opportunity, even one that would be extremely challenging but he felt that it was an opportunity God was leading him to for the sake of Gospel ministry. Share a time when you felt God was either taking you there, putting you there, or wanting you to go there in order to be a witness for him. What made that difficult? How did it work out?