

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 10:1-5

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-5.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. The main clauses remain to the left, and the supporting clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

<sup>1</sup>For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers,  
that our fathers were all under the cloud,  
and all passed through the sea,  
<sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses  
in the cloud  
and in the sea,  
<sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food,  
<sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink.  
For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them,  
and the Rock was Christ.  
<sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased,  
for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

1. What is the significance of “for” at the beginning of this week’s paragraph?
2. What is interesting about Paul saying “our fathers” given his audience in Corinth?
3. What historical Old Testament event is Paul referring to by speaking about “the cloud” and “the sea”?
4. Read Exodus 14. Describe what happened with the cloud and the sea.

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5. In verse 2 of this week's passage, what does Paul say happened to the Israelites "in the cloud and in the sea"?
  
6. In this week's passage, Paul makes comparisons to both ordinances of the church – baptism and the Lord's Supper. Being *baptized into* something/someone means to be united with and identified with that thing/person. Read each of the following verses and note what the baptized person is being baptized into. (Note that for both the Israelites and for believers, the physical nature of the baptism involves water but the real point is the spiritual union that the ceremony represents.)
  - a. Acts 19:3-5
  
  - b. Romans 6:3-4

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-5 again.

7. Read Exodus 16:1-17:7. Describe the food and drink that God provided for the Israelites in the wilderness.
  
8. The manna and water that the people ate and drank were real physical provisions, but what adjective does Paul use to describe them in verses 3 and 4 of this week's passage?
  
9. Why do you think he calls them "spiritual," and what impact should the manna and water have had on the Israelites *beyond* meeting their physical needs?

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10. According to verse 4, what was the source of their spiritual drink? (Note that scholars teach us that the physical manifestations of God in the Old Testament are appearances of the Son, the Second Person of the Trinity, prior to His incarnation as the man Jesus.)

11. Did the Israelites lack anything they might need for their sojourn?

12. Read 1 Corinthians 1:4-7. How well are believers supplied in Christ?

### ❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-5 again.

13. What key word is repeated five times in verses 1-4 in this week's passage?

14. Even though *all* of the Israelites in the Exodus experienced these things, what was the end result for *most* of them?

15. Read Numbers 14:1-38. What does Paul mean in saying that "they were overthrown in the wilderness"?

16. Read Hebrews 10:39-11:6. What is required for a person to please God?

17. Look ahead to 1 Corinthians 10:6 in next week's passage. Why does Paul bring up these Old Testament references?

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18. We will talk more about their (bad) example next week, but how should this week's example from the Old Testament that some of those who were outwardly identified among God's people did not receive God's approval in the end be a lesson for us in the church today?

19. How does this week's paragraph relate to Paul's concern in 9:24-27 from last week?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would be aware of the provisions God has made for us in Christ and that we would be pleasing to Him in every way.