

Teaching Resource Items
for

***The Corinthian Letters:
Imperatives for an Imperfect Church***

These items are selected from “Teaching Plans” in
*The Corinthian Letters: Imperatives for an Imperfect Church—
Adult Bible Teaching Guide.*

They are provided to make lesson preparation easier and faster
for handouts and similar items.

(Every lesson’s “Teaching Plans” does not include items that lend themselves to
handouts, and so an item is not provided for every lesson.)

See

*The Corinthian Letters: Imperatives for an Imperfect Church—
Adult Bible Teaching Guide*
for guidance in using these items.

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Teaching Resource Items

1. For Lesson One, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 2, *Sharing Information, Asking Advice*
2. For Lesson Two, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 2, *Questions*
3. For Lesson Three, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 4, *Case Studies for Team Assignments*
4. For Lesson Four, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 4, *Situations to Evaluate*
5. For Lesson Five, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 1, *Opening Discussion*
6. For Lesson Five, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 8, *Spiritual Gifts*
7. For Lesson Seven, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 4, *Questions*
8. For Lesson Ten, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 1, *Remembering and Reflecting*
9. For Lesson Eleven, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 6, *Scriptures on God's Love*
10. For Lesson Twelve, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 5, *Connecting Statements to Verses*
11. For Lesson Thirteen, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 3, *Group Assignments*

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Sharing Information, Asking Advice

Suppose some of our church members visit a former (or founding) pastor of our church and report on current happenings. What information might they share? What advice or counsel might they ask of the former pastor?

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***Item One, For Lesson One, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities,
Step 2, Sharing Information, Asking Advice***

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How can church members live a disciplined moral life without seeming judgmental to those around us who choose to live an unbiblical lifestyle?

How should a church relate to members who practice immorality?

What happens to the witness of a congregation in its community when members choose to live in open immorality?

What is the danger of allowing immorality to continue within the church fellowship?

***Item Two, For Lesson Two, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities,
Step 2, Questions***

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Team One: A Marriage Quagmire (1 Corinthians 7:1-6)

Marcos and Priscilla have been married fourteen years and have two small children. Both parents are employed. Their son, Jake, is in spring baseball and Scouts. Daughter Jamie takes dance and gymnastics. The family comes in each evening tired and with homework to be done. Weekends are full of house and yard chores, church activities, and time with extended family. As their fifteenth anniversary approaches, Marcos and Priscilla realize that they have made little time for each other. The pressures of life have almost destroyed their intimacy.

Team Two: Living in a Conflicted Marriage (1 Corinthians 7:10-16)

After seven years of being married to Al, Mary Grace has decided to call it quits. Although she was raised in a Christian family where church attendance and involvement were givens, she fell in love with Al, whose family was nominally Christian but seldom attended church. Every weekend now Mary Grace takes their kindergarten-age son to Sunday School, while Al rides motorcycles with his high school buddies or watches television. While she reads Bible stories to Paxton and teaches him to pray, he hears coarse jokes and careless talk from his dad. Mary Grace feels that she and Al have irreconcilable differences, and that the best thing for Paxton is to be away from the values and influences of a father who does not attend church with them.

Team Three: Single and in Ministry (1 Corinthians 7:7-9, 32-35)

Andrew is in his second year of seminary, heading toward fulltime ministry. For the past eighteen months he has been serving as associate youth pastor—a demanding job that occupies all his available evening and weekend time. Although he has dated several young women, he has never found one who fully shares his life goals. When he met Caitlyn at a friend’s wedding last month he began to feel that maybe she could be “the one.” But how can he find time to develop a relationship with Caitlyn in his crowded life? What will suffer—his studies? his job?

***Item Three, For Lesson Three, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 4,
Case Studies for Team Assignments***

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You enjoy going to a good movie from time to time, but you realize that when you walk into one of today's mega cinemas many sordid films are playing in other theaters. If you are seen coming out of the complex, could a new Christian assume you were seeing an X-rated show?

You love country and western dancing, and you occasionally go to a family-friendly club. Could your presence there influence a weaker Christian to assume that all clubs are OK venues for Christians to attend?

Your kids play baseball in a civic league. Recently the guidelines have changed and games are being scheduled on Sundays and Wednesdays when worship and children's activities are held at your church. Should you insist that your children put their church life ahead of sports activities?

Your daughter (or granddaughter) plans to take a spring break trip with her boyfriend. She assures you they will sleep separately, but you are concerned that her boyfriend will misunderstand and assume she is willing to have intimate relations before marriage. How do you advise her?

***Item Four, For Lesson Four, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 4,
Situations to Evaluate***

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Many questions have been asked about the Holy Spirit throughout the history of the church.

What do you know about the Holy Spirit?

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**Item Five, For Lesson Five, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 1,
Opening Discussion**

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My Spiritual Gifts

**How I use my spiritual gifts
for the shared good of the
body of Christ**

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***Item Six, For Lesson Five, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 8,
Spiritual Gifts***

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2 Corinthians 1:3-7

- a. What are the different nuances of the words “consolation,” “comfort,” and encouragement? What shades of meaning do you think of for each word?
 - b. Paul said, “We know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation” (2 Cor. 1:7, NRSV). How can this be? Why does it matter?
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**Item Seven, For Lesson Seven, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 4,
Questions**

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Remembering and Reflecting

- a. Something that happened to you in your childhood that seemed awful or scary, but that you laugh about or see as insignificant now
- b. Your view of the event then
- c. Your view of the event now

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- a. Something that happened to you in your childhood that seemed awful or scary, but that you laugh about or see as insignificant now
 - b. Your view of the event then
 - c. Your view of the event now
-

***Item Eight, For Lesson Ten, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 1,
Remembering and Reflecting***

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What do these passages suggest about God's love?

Romans 5:8

Romans 10:9

John 3:16

Philippians 2:5-9

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What do these passages suggest about God's love?

Romans 5:8

Romans 10:9

John 3:16

Philippians 2:5-9

***Item Nine, For Lesson Eleven, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 6,
Scriptures on God's Love***

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It is not only the wealthy who are to give. The poor, even those in poverty, can join together to give liberally toward God’s work through the church.

Some give according to their ability (proportionate giving); others give beyond their ability.

Conformity to Christ in giving is not an option or merely good advice; it is the necessary outworking of what it means to be a Christian itself.

Christ’s humility and willingness to suffer and die on our behalf shows us the real meaning of sacrifice.

The condition of a person’s heart and the circumstances of the person’s life, not the attempt to measure up to the practices of others, should determine how much a person will give.

The church must meet the standards for honesty and accountability that are found not only in the Scriptures, but also in society around us.

We are to give freely and generously as an expression of our continuing trust in God’s grace.

Just as in agriculture, one can expect to reap only what is sown.

We are to give from a glad heart, cheerfully, “not reluctantly or under compulsion.”

Only generous, joyful giving is an expression of the faith and contentment that brings God’s approval.

As we are faithful to give, God’s grace will abound to provide for our needs.

In order to honor God, giving must be an act of dependence on God.

***Item Ten, For Lesson Twelve, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 5,
Connecting Statements to Verses***

2 Corinthians 10

Select a spokesperson, read your assigned chapter, and respond to the following questions:

- Was Paul falsely accused? If so, how and why?
 - What difficulties did Paul face?
 - What blessings did Paul recount?
 - Did Paul boast? If so, in what?
 - What did Paul say about others who boast?
-

2 Corinthians 11

Select a spokesperson, read your assigned chapter, and respond to the following questions:

- Was Paul falsely accused? If so, how and why?
 - What difficulties did Paul face?
 - What blessings did Paul recount?
 - Did Paul boast? If so, in what?
 - What did Paul say about others who boast?
-

***Item Eleven, For Lesson Thirteen, Teaching Plan—Varied Learning Activities, Step 3,
Group Assignments***

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