

WRITE IT DOWN!

The People of God

What in the World is the Church?

I Corinthians 1:1-9

September 23, 2007

LISTEN UP!

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I. The People of God

1. The Church is _____
2. The Church is _____: *“at Corinth”*
3. The Church is _____: *“with all in every place”*

II. A People Called

1. We are set apart as holy _____.
2. We are set apart as holy _____.
3. We are set apart for holiness _____.
4. We are set apart as holy _____, but _____.

III. A People who Call

1. God's people have always done it.
2. What does it mean?
3. What does it look like for us today?
4. This is our response to God's sovereign call and Gospel.
5. This is how we know we belong to the people of God.
6. This is what distinguishes the visible and invisible church.

THINK IT OVER!

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1. Read I Corinthians 1:1-9 once more. Circle phrases or words that grab you. Summarize in your own words how Paul sees the church at Corinth? Why is this so shocking?
2. What word does Paul use to describe himself in v. 1? Why is this significant in light of what we see in v. 2 and 9?
3. What concept is embedded in the words “sanctified” and “saints”? What does this mean that we are seen this way by God? Is this a positional thing or a practical thing?
4. Look up Genesis 4:26 and Romans 10:13 and describe their relationship to the second half of v. 2?
5. Explain how I Corinthians 1:2 demonstrates both God’s sovereign initiative and our necessary response to God’s initiative. On which is the stress laid in this verse?

WORK IT OUT!

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1. What did you like about this text and message? What moved you? What challenged you? What didn’t you understand?
2. How valuable is the church to God? How do we know? How can we tell that most today do not see the church as valuable as God sees it?
3. What difference should it make that we, the church, are called and set apart by God? What difference should it make in our self-perception? In the way we live? In the way we interact with each other? Why don’t we always see this difference?
4. Describe the difference between the universal and local church? How do we see both in the I Corinthians 1:2?
5. Describe the difference between visible and invisible church? What distinguishes these two? Who sees each? How do we know if someone is really of the people of God? How do we know if we’re really of the people of God?