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Watch this video for an introduction to 1 Corinthians:

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Read all of 1 Corinthians 10,11, and 13.

Study Questions

1. Corinthian Christians had come out of a background of paganism. Temples for the worship of Apollo, Asclepius, Demeter, Aphrodite and other pagan gods and goddesses were in full view of the Corinthians as they engaged in the activities of everyday life. What highly-visible aspects of your everyday life have the potential to distract you, tempt you and draw you away from Christ?
2. We read about temptation in **1 Corinthians 10:12-13**. Remember, temptation itself is not a sin. Jesus was tempted. **Read Matthew 4:1-11**. It is when we give in to the temptation that we sin. Is there someone or something in your life tempting you to stray away from your relationship with Jesus? What plan can you put in place to keep your relationship with God first in your life? What is your first step? Who can come alongside and walk with you? Who can you come alongside of and walk with?
3. God desires that you open His Word and experience the joy of getting to know Him. The Apostle Paul says in **1 Corinthians 11:1**, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." As you study God's Word and learn about the life of Jesus, what are some examples of how you are experiencing the joy of getting to know Him? How are you imitating Him, living as He did, as your relationship grows? What evidence can you share with someone about how Christ is changing you from the inside out?
4. Biblical meditation is essentially "thought digestion." Another word for Biblical meditation is "rumination." Rumination is what a cow does when it chews its cud. Scriptural meditation involves reading a passage repeatedly, then thinking about it and concentrating on it in different ways, from different angles, until you have digested its meaning. Spend time meditating on these verses. Write out your thoughts.

- **John 13:34-35**

- **1 Corinthians 8:1**

- **Colossians 3:12-14**

5. Slowly read **1 Corinthians 13**, listing here what love *is* and what love *is not*:

Love Is:

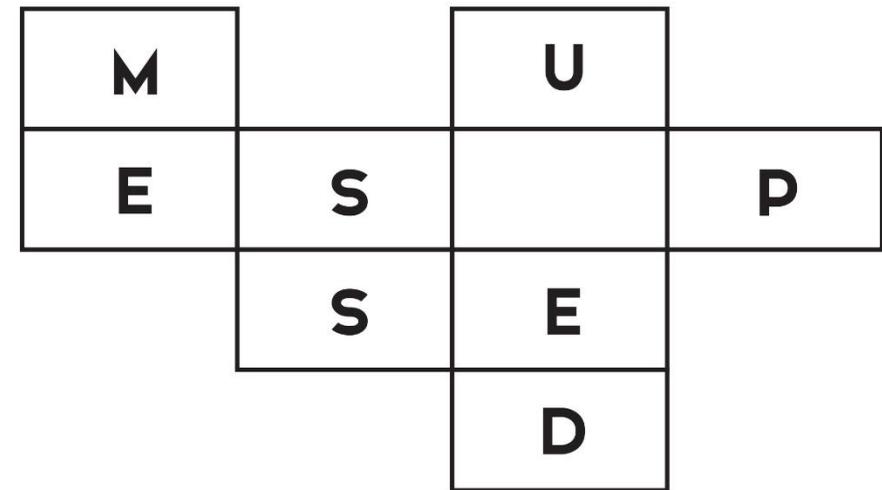
Love is not:

6. **Read 1 John 4:8**. Knowing that God is love, take time to write out who God is, referencing the Love Is area of your chart:

7. What did you learn about God through this exercise? In what ways do you need to think or feel differently about who God is and who you believe God to be? How would it change you if you took these truths to heart? **Read 1 Corinthians 4:21**
8. Continue to pray the prayer of Saint Francis throughout our study of 1 Corinthians.

Prayer of Saint Francis:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace, Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy; Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



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