**DIFFERENT SERIES**

 **“Seeing Life Differently”**

**Pastor Wayne Driedger**

**September 22, 2013**

**1 Corinthians 1:1-16 (NLT)**

**Greetings from Paul**

1 This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes.

2I am writing to God’s church in Corinth,[[a](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20corinthians%201&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-28326a" \o "See footnote a)] to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus,[[b](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20corinthians%201&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-28326b" \o "See footnote b)] just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.

3May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

**Paul Gives Thanks to God**

4I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. 5Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. 6This confirms that what I told you about Christ is true. 7Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. 9God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Divisions in the Church**

10I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters,[[c](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20corinthians%201&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-28334c" \o "See footnote c)] by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. 11For some members of Chloe’s household have told me about your quarrels, my dear brothers and sisters. 12Some of you are saying, “I am a follower of Paul.” Others are saying, “I follow Apollos,” or “I follow Peter,[[d](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20corinthians%201&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-28336d" \o "See footnote d)]” or “I follow only Christ.”

13Has Christ been divided into factions? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not! 14I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15for now no one can say they were baptized in my name. 16(Oh yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas, but I don’t remember baptizing anyone else.)

**Video…(.ABC Can you see the difference? I don’t see the difference.)**

**1 Corinthians 1:1-3**

**This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes.**

**2 I am writing to God’s church in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.**

1. **A DIFFERENT WAY TO SEE YOURSELF**

 **“I’ve messed up but Jesus has made me holy”**

**4 I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. 5 Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. 6 This confirms that what I told you about Christ is true. 7 Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. 9 God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord**.

1. **A DIFFERENT WAY TO SEE THE FUTURE**

**“God is for me. He will give me all I need.”**

**In my future:**

* **I have every gift I need.**
* **I belong.**
* **Within the church community we will have the words and knowledge.**
* **I have the truth**.
* **When my life ends, Jesus will come back for me.**
* **Jesus will keep me strong and free from blame.**
* **God will never let me down**.
* **I have Jesus as a partner.**

**10 I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. 11 For some members of Chloe’s household have told me about your quarrels, my dear brothers and sisters. 12 Some of you are saying, “I am a follower of Paul.” Others are saying, “I follow Apollos,” or “I follow Peter,” or “I follow only Christ.” 13 Has Christ been divided into factions? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not!**

1. **A RADICALLY DIFFERENT LEADER WILL PRODUCE RADICALLY DIFFERENT FOLLOWERS**

**Different Leader:**

**- His Teachings on Relationships**

**\*\* (Alpha video clip)**

 **- His Death**

 **- His Baptism**

**“I’m following Jesus. My hero died for me and His life is in me”**