

The Only Foundation

1 Corinthians 3:9-11

Last week we considered the church as God's _____ ; this week we consider a 2nd metaphor: God's building 2 misconceptions can keep us from understanding this passage, like a wrong answer in a _____ puzzle

1) The building is not bricks and mortar; rather it symbolizes of the _____ who compose a local church

Vv.16-17 compare believers to a particular kind of building: a temple, in fact, the _____

2) Many think this passage is about the individual believer building on the foundation in his/her own life, but v.9 and vv.16-17 are plural—"you all" and the text focuses on how we build in the lives of _____ in the church

I. WHO IS DOING THE CONSTRUCTION?

A. _____ Is the Wise "Master-Builder"

1) "Master-Builder" is the word in the original language that gives us our English word _____

2) But in ancient times the architect not only designed the building, he was also the _____

B. _____ Is the Owner (V.9—"God's building")

1) God is the one who wants the building built; He is the one who "hired" _____ as the architect

2) Verse 10 also mentions _____ —others who built on the foundation that Paul laid

C. God the Owner Supplies the _____ Needed by Paul the Master-Builder to Construct the Building

1) The architect must submit a list of _____ needed to construct the building to the owner

2) No workman (believer) can build up others in the local church without the grace that _____ supplies

3) V.10: we build "according to" the amount of grace God gives: we have not because we _____ not

II. HOW ARE THEY CONSTRUCTING THE FOUNDATION?

A. The Foundation Is _____ :The Foundation Is Relational/Personal

1) To be saved, to lay this foundation, we must have a faith _____ with a person, Jesus

2) Matthew 7:21-23 warns many will claim Jesus at the last day and He will say, "I never _____ you"

B. The Foundation Is Christ _____ :The Foundation Is Doctrinal

1) According to 1 Corinthians 1, Paul preached Christ crucified at Corinth: Jesus is a person, but He is described by certain key truths—the foundation includes believing certain _____ about Jesus

2) We disciple converts to ensure they believe in the Jesus of the _____ not a Jesus of their own making

C. The Local Church Must Be Built upon a Foundation of _____ Believers

1) It is only on this foundation—a faith relationship with Jesus Christ—that we can build a local _____

2) If this foundation is NOT in place, there will be _____ when we try to build on the foundation

3) Some local churches invite disaster by trying to shortcut the foundation of the church in 2 ways:

a) Some preach a watered-down _____ that does not mention sin or explain why Jesus had to die

b) Others pay little attention to who joins the church because they want to build a _____ church

4) The _____ of the foundation determines what we can build on top of it and how long it will last