



Week of February 11
Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 10:25-37¹

Overview

Paul's letter to the Corinthians addresses needs and problems specific to that local church. But for a 2000-year-old letter, many of the topics will ring true to us today as well. Cultural diversity and religious pluralism were obvious in 1st Century Corinth and are also rampant in our 21st century world. Paul cares deeply about both right living and right thinking for Christians, and so should we. Read the letter with a view toward Paul's primary purposes: the health and "building up" of the body of Christ, and actions which further the gospel. Keeping these themes in mind will help you understand the "why" behind Paul's guidance and admonitions to the Corinthian Christians. This week's lesson steps away from Corinthians to consider how Jesus informs our practice of asking others good questions.

Group Objectives

Relationships and Life Transformation are the primary purposes of community groups.

- Reflect on this past Sunday's message and other devotional reading.
- Pray together and provide encouragement for other group members...how can you "build one another up" this week?
- Pray for God's call to reach your "one more."

DNA statement(s) tie-in

- ***We are On Mission to Reach One More.*** Every person matters to God, so every person matters to us. God invites every one of us to join him in his great mission to **reach one more** – one more coworker, neighbor, family member, and friend.
- ***We are All for Jesus.*** Jesus saves us from our past, remakes us to be like him, heals our broken places, and is coming back as our king. Only Jesus is worthy of our allegiance, and worldly division has no place for those who follow him.

Conversation Starters

- What stood out to you from this week's sermon?
- What thoughts or questions have recently kept you up at night?

Listening to God

- How have you seen God working in your life and the life of others this week?
- Have you felt prompted to do or say something that you have held back from? Share and pray for boldness in taking this step of trust with Jesus together as a group or in pairs.

¹ This discussion guide was written by Allison Dykhouse and edited by Dawn Gentry. For additional content, see the [sermon online](#) and the reading plan [found here](#).

Learning from God's Word: Bible Study Discussion

Jesus asked questions for many reasons; to take conversations deeper, to make a point without being pushy, to give others a chance to discover what they believe for themselves, and much more. By asking questions he learned the person's perspective and communicated how he valued them. Jesus asked many questions of non-believers. These questions allowed Jesus to take each conversation towards the deeper needs of the person. As we learn to ask questions like Jesus did, we can do the same with our daily interactions.

Read Matthew 8:5-13

- What question does Jesus ask?
- What do you observe about the Centurion's response to Jesus's question? List what you observe about his character, his heart posture, and his understanding of the world and Jesus.
- Compare and contrast what Jesus' question reveals about the Centurion and the others that Jesus has been interacting with.
- Jesus reveals the trust and faith of each individual with a simple question. If you were to be in this scene, what might this question reveal about you?

Read Luke 10:25-37

- What question does Jesus ask?
- How does he use a question to answer the "expert of the law"?
 - Why do you think this is effective in this situation?
- What do we observe about the expert's heart from how he answers?
- How do you think this conversation with Jesus challenged the "expert of the law"?
- How might we ask questions that would allow our "one more" to walk away challenged and thinking about Jesus?

Reach One More Challenge

- This week pray for an opening to invite your "one more" to join you for a meal or experience and ask God what questions would be great to take the conversation deeper.
 - Next week, share with the group what you learned and how you saw God at work.

Prayer Prompts

- Invite members of the group to share requests.
- Allow time for silent reflection on the following prompts.
 - *Jesus, what questions are you asking me to wrestle with? Would you give me space and peace to step into this with you? What questions you are inviting me to step into with my "one more" that will help draw their heart and mind toward you?*

For further study

- For more about the **Reach One More** initiative, see www.reachonemore.cccomaha.org.
- For practical ideas you can implement as you reach one more, see <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzdVE7HNsqM-FEzli5Etuzj379W7kUsxO>
- NT Wright, *1 Corinthians* (N. T. Wright *For Everyone* commentary series)
- Anthony Thiselton, *1 Corinthians: A Smaller Exegetical and Pastoral Commentary*
- Heather Holleman, *Sent: Living a Life that Invites Others to Jesus*
- Pathak & Runyon, *The Art of Neighboring*

Some copies of these books may be available at the CCC resource booth to purchase on-site.