

STUDYING THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 17 - Propriety in Worship - 1 Corinthians 11:1-16

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

[1] Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

1CO 11:2 I praise you for remembering me in everything and for holding to the teachings, just as I passed them on to you.

1CO 11:3 Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. [4] Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head. [5] And every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head--it is just as though her head were shaved. [6] If a woman does not cover her head, she should have her hair cut off; and if it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut or shaved off, she should cover her head. [7] A man ought not to cover his head,* since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. [8] For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; [9] neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. [10] For this reason, and because of the angels, the woman ought to have a sign of authority on her head.

1CO 11:11 In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. [12] For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God. [13] Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? [14] Does not the very nature of things teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him, [15] but that if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For long hair is given to her as a covering. [16] If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice--nor do the churches of God.

DISCUSSIONS QUESTIONS

Lesson 17 - Propriety in Worship - 1 Corinthians 11:1-16

198. Whose example should all Christians follow? ([11:1](#))

199. For what did Paul praise the Corinthian church? ([11:2](#))

200. What public worship practices did Paul rebuke? ([11:2-16](#))

201. Who is the head of women, men, and Christ? ([11:3](#))

202. Why were women to have a sign of authority on their head? ([11:3-11](#))
203. Why does it dishonor a man's head to pray or prophesy with his head covered? ([11:3-4](#), [7](#))
204. Why does it dishonor a woman's head to pray or prophesy with her head uncovered? ([11:3](#), [5-10](#))
205. How seriously did Paul regard the woman who did not cover her head? ([11:6](#))
206. How are women and men different? ([11:7-8](#))
207. What relationship do men and women have to each other? ([11:11-12](#))
208. How did Paul try to head off criticism about these instructions? ([11:16](#))
209. In what ways were these instructions a response to problems unique to the Corinthian church?

Lesson 18 - The Lord's Supper - [1 Corinthians 11:17-34](#)

1CO 11:17 In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. [18] In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. [19] No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval. [20] When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, [21] for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk. [22] Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this? Certainly not!

1CO 11:23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." [25] In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." [26] For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1CO 11:27 Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. [28] A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. [29] For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. [30] That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. [31] But if we judged ourselves, we would not come

under judgment. [32] When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

1CO 11:33 So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for each other. [34] If anyone is hungry, he should eat at home, so that when you meet together it may not result in judgment.

And when I come I will give further directions.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 18 - The Lord's Supper - [1 Corinthians 11:17-34](#)

210. Why did Paul have no praise for the Corinthians here? ([11:17](#))
211. Why are there differences among believers? ([11:19](#))
212. What severe problem did Paul address in this passage? ([11:20-22](#))
213. What essential truths about the Lord's Supper and Jesus' redemptive work are presented in this passage? ([11:23-26](#))
214. Why should Christians celebrate Communion? ([11:24](#))
215. What is accomplished by eating the bread and drinking the wine of the Lord's Supper? ([11:26](#))
216. What role does Communion play in the task of evangelism? ([11:26](#))
217. What is the result of partaking of the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner? ([11:27](#))
218. What should a person do before partaking of the Lord's Supper? ([11:28](#))
219. What did the illness and death suffered by the Corinthians reveal about God's attitude toward Communion? ([11:30](#))
220. Why does the Lord discipline His children? ([11:32](#))
221. What additional advice did Paul give to Christians preparing for Communion? ([11:33-34](#))
222. Why is a spirit of reverence important when partaking of the Lord's Supper?
223. What practice in your local fellowship may need to be reexamined in light of this Scripture?

