

**Discussion Questions Set #1**

“Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly..” (1 Corinthians 2:6-8)

1. Define what you know about each category of people. Think about things like: source of wisdom, kinds of behaviours and attitudes present in each, etc.

Those who live by the Spirit	Those who are still worldly (the fleshly)

2. In sermon we learned about the fleshly, a category of people who have the Spirit – they are true followers of Jesus – but are actively behaving as though they are still of the world. How might one become fleshly in their faith? What problems might a fleshly lifestyle create for the follower of Jesus?
3. How is the message of “Christ crucified” both milk and solid food to the follower of Jesus?
4. In sermon, it was suggested that the Corinthians did not need a change in diet, but a change in perspective away from worldly understandings. Discuss what this comment means to you.

**Discussion Questions Set #2**

“Neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building”. (1 Corinthians 3:7-9)  
“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12)

1. What does 1 Corinthians 3:7-9 lend to our understanding not only of leadership within the church, but also of service to the church? Discuss the ideas of diversity and united purpose in light of these verses.
2. The Corinthian Christians seemed to believe that wisdom came with gained knowledge, while maturity came with increased wisdom. What problems might such a belief system result in? How might this bias leadership within the church?
3. Paul suggests very clearly that wisdom is a gift of the Spirit to the church and that maturity is made evident not in accumulated knowledge, but in living lives of holiness and service to others. What difference might this understanding make within a church, particularly in terms of leadership?
4. Why do you think one’s example is so highlighted by Paul in our text?

**Discussion Questions Set #3**

“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person; for God’s temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.” (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

1. Discuss the importance of unity and lack of divisiveness in the church in light of the above scripture. Why is our ability to live in unity of eternal importance? What is the significance of the idea that we are God’s temple “together”?
2. The people of God are to serve as a temple of the Holy Spirit – a visible example of God’s alternative to the religion and practices of the world. What outcomes might failing to live in this way bring about?
3. Why might this aspect of our identity as the church be sometimes taken for granted?