



**Connect Group Guide: WK 1  
CHURCH GONE WILD: “A Church with Issues”**

**Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

1. Paul begins by reminding the Corinthians who they are before addressing what they have done. Why is it important that the gospel gives us a new identity before it calls us to a new way of living? How does that change the way you view your own failures?
2. The Corinthians slowly began looking more like their culture than like Christ. Where do you see the greatest temptation in your own life to let culture shape your identity more than the gospel?
3. The sermon emphasized that this church had one root problem: they forgot who they were in Christ. When you struggle with sin, what truths about your identity in Christ are you most likely to forget?
4. Paul describes believers as sanctified, holy, recipients of grace, enriched in Christ, and blameless. Which of these truths is hardest for you to believe personally, and why? How does the cross of Christ assure you that it is true?
5. The gospel not only reconciled sinners to God but also reconciled enemies like Paul and Sosthenes to one another. How should remembering the gospel affect the way we pursue unity, forgiveness, and humility within the church?
6. The sermon challenged us to renew our minds by speaking God’s truth instead of believing lies about ourselves. What lies are you most tempted to believe, and what specific truths from 1 Corinthians 1:1–9 can you use to replace them this week?
7. The sermon ended by reminding us that Jesus doesn’t wait for us to clean ourselves up before receiving us. Instead, He gives us a new identity and then transforms us over time. How does this truth give you hope for your own spiritual growth and change, and how should it shape the way you encourage others?

**Deeper Theological Questions**

1. Paul calls the Corinthians “Sanctified in Christ Jesus” even though they were still struggling with serious sin and immaturity. What does this teach us about the difference between our justification (our declared identity before God because of Christ) and our sanctification (the ongoing process of becoming more like Christ)? How should understanding both protect us from either shame or spiritual complacency?
2. 1 Corinthians 1:8 says that Christ “Will keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.” What does this reveal about who ultimately preserves our salvation—our ability to remain faithful or Christ’s faithfulness to hold onto us? How should the doctrine of God’s preserving grace impact the way we fight sin, endure struggles, and live with confidence?

