**Life Group Study Guide: Loved what you heard on Sunday? Want to go deeper? The life group study guide will help you unpack what you heard on Sunday while diving deeper into God's word.**

***CONNECT***

*Have you ever felt really judged? What was it like?*

***DIGGING DEEPER***

**Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-4:13**

* The whole debate about Paul versus Apollos is an example of worldly wisdom that should be abandoned. In light of 1 Corinthians 3:10-17, why should a person abandon the world’s wisdom?
* What are the three warnings that Paul gives the Corinthians in chapter 3?
  + Verse 10, 13
  + Verse 17
  + Verse 18

*Corinth was a hotbed of social progression, displays of wealth, and academic advancement. Driven by pride, social standing, and finances, the Corinthian Christians began to rank different believers and, in doing so, created division in the church. Paul addresses’ this issue and begins to clarify what it truly looks like to follow Jesus.*

* Instead of putting leaders on pedestals, boasting about some and criticizing others, how should Christians regard their leaders (4:1)?
* Whose judgement does Paul not care about (4:3)?
* Whose judgement does Paul care about (4:5)? Read John 5:16-30. What does Jesus have to say about judgement?
* Read 1 Corinthians 4:8-13. Compare and contrast the Corinthians’ view of themselves to Paul’s view of himself.
* Paul confronts the lofty views the Corinthians have of themselves and the way they judge other believers. Paul describes his experiences as real Christian ministry. Read Luke 9:58 and 1 Peter 2:21-24. How are Paul’s experiences similar to that of Jesus Christ’s?

***DISCUSS***

* What areas of your life are you more concerned with the judgement of others rather than the judgement of God?
* In chapter 4 verse 9, Paul says we have become like a spectacle to the world. The Greek word *theatron* literally means theatre. When people see the show of your life, do they see Jesus?
* Was there anything for this week’s guided reading of the bible that connected to this study?

**180-Day Guided Tour of the Bible**

**Reading Plan for Week of May 6th**

**Day 146 –** Acts 16: Detour

**Day 147** – Philippians 2: Downward Mobility

**Day 148 –** Acts 17: Mixed Results

**Day 149 –** 1 Thessalonians 3-4: Preparing for the End

**Day 150 –** 2 Thessalonians 2: Rumor Control

Want to keep up with all that is going on at Wave? Simply fill out your communication card and write newsletter, to get a weekly

email update from Wave!

Messy Christianity | 1 Corinthians 4

“JUDGMENT IN A MESSY WORLD”

Wave Church SD | May 6, 2018

THE NOT SO HIDDEN SECRET IN OUR MESSY WORLD…

WE ARE GOING TO BE JUDGED.

**1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (ESV)***1 This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.*

IF YOU’RE GOING TO JUDGE…

* JUDGE HOW I LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS.
* JUDGE MY FAITHFULNESS BY WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN ME.

**1 Corinthians 4:3-4 (ESV)***3But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. 4For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.*

IF GOD IS GOING TO JUDGE ME, I HAVE TO BE   
CAREFUL HOW I JUDGE MYSELF.

**2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (ESV)** *9So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. 10For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.*

* WE WILL BE JUDGED BY OUR ACTIONS AND OUR MOTIVES.
* OUR JUDGMENT WILL INCLUDE BOTH REWARDS AND LOSS.

WHY IT’S FOOLISH TO UNFAIRLY JUDGE AND CRITICIZE OTHER CHRISTIANS

**1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (ESV)** *16Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? 17If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.*

* WHEN I CRITICIZE OTHER BELIEVERS, I VANDALIZE GOD’S HOUSE.

**1 Corinthians 3:18-19 (ESV)** *18Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19For the wisdom of this world is folly with God.*

* WHEN I JUDGE, I DECEIVE MYSELF THAT I AM BEING HELPFUL.

**1 Corinthians 4:5 (ESV)** *5Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.*

* ONE DAY ALL OUR CLOSET SINS AND MOTIVES WILL BE EXPOSED.

**1 Corinthians 4:6-7 (ESV)** *6I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. 7For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?*

* MY JUDGEMENTS, UNINTENTIONALLY JUDGE GOD

AND THE GIFTS HE HAS CHOSEN TO GIVE.

**1 Corinthians 4:8-13 (ESV)** *8Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you! 9For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men. 10We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. 11To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless, 12and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; 13when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things.*

* RARELY DO WE SEE THE OBSTACLES PEOPLE FACE TO BE FAITHFUL TO GOD.