

# **FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE**

*(for the quarreling church)*

Preface:

This letter of the Apostle Paul is valuable for the church today. This is especially true where we see many problems between culture and Christianity. The application of Paul's teachings in First Corinthians can do much to bring maturity and stability to the church.

Faith, Hope and Love are the keys to solving spiritual problems in any church. The church at Corinth seemed to have more problems than the average. Most leaders would give up hope for such a church. However, Paul attacked each problem with patience, logic, and godly principles. In fact, he gives us the solutions of God for such problems. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit Paul lays down some basic doctrine on church leadership, church discipline, marriage, the Lord's Supper, the use of spiritual gifts, spiritual maturity and the resurrection.

The scriptures quoted in this book are from the New International Version, (NIV). Occasionally a scripture is quoted from the New Century Version, [NCV]. This translation is written in clear, easy to read English. It is very helpful for students who speak English as a second language. Additional aid has been given by inserting helpful words into the scripture. These words are found in square brackets: [ ].

Care has been taken to keep the English and the teaching process clear so that anyone with a primary education can understand Paul's teachings. This, however, does not mean that those with higher education will find the teachings to be light. Indeed, the teachings of the Apostle Paul are seldom light. It only means that those with a higher education will be able to complete the lessons in a shorter amount of time.

It is our prayer that this TEE book will help Christian leaders bring maturity and stability to the church.

In Christian Love

Bob Sheffler

# CONTENTS

lesson title	page number
<b>WEEK ONE: DIVISION IN THE CHURCH</b> .....	1
A letter to the Church at Corinth .....	1
Whom Should We Follow? .....	4
Man's Wisdom or God's Wisdom? .....	6
The Secret Wisdom of God .....	10
Jealousy and Pride .....	13
<b>WEEK TWO: SERVANTS</b> .....	17
A Warning .....	17
Humility .....	20
The Rights of a Servant .....	23
The Responsibility of a Servant .....	26
Self-discipline .....	28
<b>WEEK THREE: MORAL DISCIPLINE IN THE CHURCH</b> .....	32
Purity in the Church .....	32
Discipline of Sinful Members .....	34
Disagreements Between Members .....	38
Avoid Self-defeat .....	40
Review of Weeks One, Two and Three .....	44
<b>WEEK FOUR: MARRIAGE</b> .....	45
Our Body is Sacred .....	45
Controlling Sexual Desire .....	47
Divorce .....	50
Make the Best of Your Present Situation .....	53
Marriage in Times of Persecution .....	57
<b>WEEK FIVE: CHRISTIAN FREEDOM</b> .....	60
Knowledge Leads to Freedom .....	60
Concern for the Weak Brother .....	63
A Warning .....	65
Pagan Celebrations .....	69
Stumbling Blocks to Unbelievers .....	72
<b>WEEK SIX: THE WORSHIP SERVICE</b> .....	75
Women in the Worship Service .....	75
Abuse of the Lord's Supper .....	79
Observation of the Lord's Supper .....	82
An Unworthy Manner .....	85
Review of Weeks One Through Six .....	88

lesson title	page number
<b>WEEK SEVEN: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - PART ONE</b> .....	91
Different Gifts .....	91
Which Spiritual Work is Most Important? .....	93
A Better Way .....	97
Miraculous Gifts Will Stop .....	100
Prophecy and Tongues in Worship .....	103
 <b>WEEK EIGHT: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - PART TWO</b> .....	 108
Correct Use of Spiritual Gifts .....	108
What is the Gift of Tongues? .....	111
Is the Gift of Tongues Necessary for Salvation? .....	114
Do Christians Still Have the Gift of Tongues .....	118
Review of Weeks One Through Eight .....	121
 <b>WEEK NINE: THE RESURRECTION</b> .....	 123
The Resurrection and the Gospel .....	123
What If There Were No Resurrection? .....	126
Our Resurrection Through Christ .....	129
The Resurrected Body .....	132
Our Victory Over Death .....	135
 <b>WEEK TEN: PAUL'S FINAL INSTRUCTIONS</b> .....	 138
The Collection for God's People .....	138
Visits from Paul, Timothy and Apollos .....	141
Paul's Final Warning .....	144
Paul's Final Greetings .....	146
Final Review .....	149