

**Series "Called To Be Saints"**  
**"Closing Words"**  
**1 Corinthians 16:5-24**  
**Part-31**

**Often what is last said is most important:**  
**John 13-17** called "**The Upper Room Discourse.**"

**"Now I covered marriage, Singleness, Christian liberty, The Lord's Supper, Gifts, Love, Resurrection, Rapture, Giving. "Oh yea, I need to mention my plans to visit some faithful church workers and exhort the Corinthians to stay focused!"**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Our Future Plans Must Remain Flexible To God's Will By Being Submissive And Being Loving Channels In Blessing Others."

- 1. Verses 5-9 How To Make Plans**
- 2. Verses 10-24 How To Work With Others**

**1. Verses 5-9 How To Make Plans**

**1 Corinthians 16:5 But (Context)** Paul left off with answering his final question regarding the believers' giving to God

**1 Corinthians 16:1-4** Now Paul, in closing, shares his future plans.

**Short Term Plans: I will come to you**

So Paul affirms that he loved them and was coming to visit them.

**after I go through Macedonia, for I am going through Macedonia;** Was a Roman province in Northern Greece. This held the churches of **Philippi, Thessalonica** and **Berea**. Paul would then go to the South to Corinth.

**Notice Paul's Terms in Verses 6-7, and perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, that you may send me on my way wherever I may go.**

**1 Corinthians 16:7 if the Lord permits. James 4:13-15**

**"If the Lord wills,**

It was God's will, and Paul was able to stay. **Acts 20:1-3**

**1 Corinthians 16:8 But I will remain in Ephesus until Pentecost;**

If he sailed during the winter, there would be storms on the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

**1 Corinthians 16:9 for a wide door** - or the term open door speaks of opportunity. **Revelation 3:7-8**

**for effective service has opened to me,**  
An opportunity to serve that opened up.

It was here at Ephesus that Paul reached the whole of Asia and was evangelized. **Acts 19:10 all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews, and Greeks.**

**Note - In God's Will, There Is Opposition: and there are many adversaries.** This is a reference to Satan and His oppositions.

**Acts 19:23-41** Tells of the opposition that came upon Paul.

**Idol Worshipers & Cults –**  
**Pagan Silversmiths –**

**Opposition Is Not An Excuse To Run!**

## **2. Verses 10-24 How To Work With Others**

**1 Corinthians 16:10**

**Verses 10-11 Timothy: Now if Timothy comes,**

He was Paul's associate. He sent Timothy, but he had to go to Macedonia first. (4:17) The letter got there first.

**Have Timothy's Back: see that he is with you without cause to be afraid;** This word **afraid** – *"fear, or anxiety."*

It seems that Timothy, by nature, was timid. **2 Timothy 1:7**

**Treat Timothy As A Co-Worker: for he is doing the Lord's work, as I also am. 1 Corinthians 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers;**

**1 Corinthians 16:11**

**Don't Despise Timothy: So let no one despise him.**

The term despise: *"to think absolutely nothing about a person."*

**Be A Blessing To Timothy: But send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me; for I expect him with the brethren.**

**1 Corinthians 16:12 Apollos:**

**But concerning Apollos Acts 18:24; 1 Corinthians 1:12**

**our brother, I encouraged him greatly to come to you with the brethren;** These believers had wanted Apollos to visit them in Corinth.

**and it was not at all his desire to come now,**

There were problems in the church, and he did not want to get involved, so he said, not at this time.

**but he will come when he has opportunity.**

He will come at the proper time and in the timing of God.

### **Verses 13-14 Paul's 5 Exhortations: 1 Corinthians 16:13**

- 1. Be on the alert,** - As Christians, we need to live lives of vigilance.
- 2. stand firm in the faith,** This is the idea of "*being immobile, planting the feet.*"
- 3. act like men, (Grow Up!)** This speaks of **maturing as a Christian.**
- 4. be strong.** That is what a steady diet of the Bible will produce.
- 5. 1 Corinthians 16:14 Let all that you do be done in love.**

**One of the deadliest enemies of the Christian cause is phony love.  
Romans 12:9 RSV "Let love be genuine,"**

**Agape** - Which is God's love. *Divine - Unconditional - Loves for no reason - love exists to demonstrate.*

**1 Corinthians 16:15 Now I urge you, brethren**

Paul was not going to order or command them but was going to appeal to them.

**you know the household of Stephanas,**

Paul and the church knew this family.

**1 Corinthians 1:16 the household of Stephanas;**

**First Converts: that they were the first fruits of Achaia,**

It consisted roughly of the southern half of ancient Greece. Major cities in Achaia included Athens and Corinth.

**Devoted Service: and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the saints),** Notice that this entire family was devoted to ministry.

**(KJV) and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)**

**1 Corinthians 16:16 Submit Yourselves: that you also be in**

**Subjection** (*submit yourselves*) - Military term, that means "*to place in order or rank, to fall into, cooperation, voluntary.*"

**to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.**  
We are to cooperate and help others that are serving the Lord.

(NLT) Hebrews 13:17

**1 Corinthians 16:17 Paul Rejoiced In Their Fellowship: I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus;**

**coming** – *"to be beside"* The fellowship was coveted and loved by the apostle.

**Paul Rejoiced In Their Gift: because they have supplied what was lacking on your part.** We are not really sure what this was.

**1 Corinthians 16:18**

**Paul Rejoiced In Their Refreshment: For they have refreshed my spirit and yours.**

**Refreshed** – *"to give rest."*

**Therefore acknowledge such men.** Literally, *"to recognize fully."*

**1 Corinthians 16:19 The churches of Asia greet you.**

These churches were the six churches in Revelation: **Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, Colossae, Hierapolis.**

**Aquila** (Husband) means *"an eagle."* **Prisca** or **Priscilla** - *"old-fashioned or true virtues."* **Trade:** Tentmakers with Paul.

**greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.**  
For the First 300 years, Christians met in homes -

**1 Corinthians 16:20 Greet one another with a holy kiss.**

Notice that it was a holy kiss.

**1 Corinthians 16:21 The greeting is in my own hand—Paul.**

Authenticity.

**1 Corinthians 16:22 Paul Gives A Stern Warning: If anyone does not love the Lord,** - Paul knew that there were people in the fellowship that were not believers.

A true test is to see if the love of God is in you or not! **1 John 3:14-15**

**he is to be accursed.** Greek – *"accursed to the lowest parts."*  
**Those that don't love the Lord will be accursed when the Lord comes.**

**Maranatha.** Aramaic expression: "*The Lord is coming*" means three things:

1. The Lord has come in the flesh. The incarnation of God.
2. Prophetically declaring, "Our Lord is coming!"
3. It's a Prayer; "Oh Lord Come!"

**1 Corinthians 16:23 The grace of the Lord**

That is where the power is.

**24 My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

**Application: The Theme Of 1 Corinthians Is "Called To Be Saints"**

**Saint – "True Believer"**

**Church – "Called Out Ones."** Believers Are To Be Different From The World. Our world majors on the senses; how I feel, will I like it? Will I be happy? The believer relies upon God's Word.

The Immature Christian Says, "I Don't Feel Like It!"

The Mature Christian says, "I Will Do What Is Right Because It Is Right!"