

1 CORINTHIANS:

God's Glorious Church in Real Life

Sermon Title: "Ending on the Main Thing" (Part 1)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Pastor Chris Fritz / Sunday, November 28, 2021

INTRODUCTION

I. FIVE USEFUL, SIMPLE, STRAIGHTFORWARD COMMANDS FOR THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

*"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."
(1 Corinthians 16:13-14)*

1) Be watchful (be alert)... always!

Matthew 26:41; 1 Peter 5:8; Genesis 4:7b; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 -

2) Stand firm... in the faith!

Jude 3; Matthew 7:24-27 -

3) Be mature... like a grown man!

1 Corinthians 3:1-2 -

4) Be strong... in the Lord!

2 Corinthians 12:10; Isaiah 40:31; John 15:5; Colossians 1:29 -

Note: Strength for the Christian is found in making much of Christ, depending upon Christ, waiting on Christ, drawing near to Christ, delighting in Christ, and following Christ!

5) Be loving... in ALL that you do and ALL that you say!

Romans 5:5 -

II. SEEING AND CELEBRATING GODLY EXAMPLES OF FAITH AND LOVE

“Now I urge you, brothers - you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints - be subject to such as these, and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence, for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such people.” (1 Corinthians 16:15-18)

1) **“household”** - It’s a blessing to serve the Lord as an individual AND as a family!

2) **“converts”** - EVERYONE who is a “convert” is gifted and qualified to serve in some way!

1 Peter 2:9-10 -

3) **“devoted”** - These dear believers had given themselves entirely to loving service!

Proverbs 4:23 -

4) **“be subject”** - Find someone serving well and follow them; partner with them; learn from them!

1 Corinthians 11:1 -

5) **“rejoice”**... 6) **“refreshed”**... 7) **“recognition”**... *coming next week!*

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Why must we always “be watchful”? Watchful for what?
2. What does Paul mean by “the faith” (verse 13)? How can you stand firm in the faith?
3. Why does Paul call his readers to “act like men” and “be strong”? What does that mean?
4. Why is the command in verse 14 a necessary and vital companion to everything in verse 13?
5. What is significant about the household of Stephanas? What can we learn from their example?