



MESSAGE/SERIES:

“A Cloudy View of Ministry”

DATE: August 11, 2019

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

1 Corinthians 3:1-10, Romans 7:14-20, Galatians 4:3-5, Ephesians 4:14, 2 Peter. 1:9, Hebrews 5:11-14, Hebrews 6:1-4, 1 Peter 2:2, Romans 12:3-6

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[1 Corinthians 3:1-10]

“But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human?

⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each.

*⁶ **I [Paul] planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.** ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹ For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.*

¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.”

BACKGROUND & OTHER STUDY HELPS:

- (v3) **“Of the flesh”** does not speak to nature but to actions
- Paul utilizes the **Old Testament imagery of God** as the Sower and Builder
 - *Ruth 4:11, Psalms 28:5, 51:18, 69:35, 147:2, Jeremiah 1:10, 18:7, 24:6, 31:4, 45:4*
- (v9) **“God’s Building”**- Gives allusions of the temple and in new testament teaching we are the temple of the Holy Spirit and therefore God
 - *1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 1 Peter 2:4-5*

“...But God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 3:6-7.

OUTLINE:

I. BABY Believers (v1-2)

- **Meat & Milk**
 - (v1) *Spiritual & Meat*
 - (v1-2) *People of the flesh & Milk*
- **Evidence of Immaturity**
 - (v3) *Jealousy*
 - (v3) *Strife*
 - (v4) *Following human leadership and ultimately not Christ as the head*

II. MINISTERS & MINISTRY (v3-10)

- **Immature/sinful view of ministers (v3-4)**
 - *1 Corinthians 1:12 (many divisions in the church)*
- **Biblical view of ministers (v5-10)**
 - *God assigns the Spiritual gifts (Romans 12:6)*
 - *God gives favor and fruit in faithful ministry (1 Corinthians 15:10)*
 - *(v9) “God’s fellow workers”- (Mark 16:20, 2 Corinthians 6:1)*
 - *(v9) “God’s Field”-*
 - *Is the local body of believers who gather together*
 - *A visual of God Sowing through the body of believers*
 - *A visual of God Watering through the body of believers*
 - *A visual of God Harvesting the true church at the end of time as the finished product*
 - *(v9) “God’s building”- (Ephesians 2:20-22)*

III. God the GROWER (v8-10)

- **God the assigner of ministry (v5b)**
 - *(Romans 12:3-6)*
- **God the bringer true growth (v6b)**
- **God the receiver of glory in growth (v7b)**
- **God the rewarder of faithfulness in ministry (v8b)**
 - *(Matthew 16:27)*
 - *(Romans 2:6)*
- **God the possessor of the minister & ministry (v9)**
 - *The possessives stated bringing us to the conclusion that This is*
 - *His kingdom in the present*
 - *He governs the planting (evangelism)*
 - *He governs the watering (Discipleship)*
 - *He governs the harvest (Salvation/redemption)*

-----Message from Pastor Michael-----
Church,

PAUL speaks to the church in Corinth in a present state and challenges them to growth in the future. They were not able to take in the more mature things of God, but had to dwell in the lower and stories of the Bible. It is true that the word of God is one continuous story that is beautiful from beginning to end, but it also true that there are deeper doctrinal things that we need to press on towards as believers. We need to be able to open up the truly difficult and deeper things of God and wrestle with them out of a desire to understand God and His plan better.

Where are you? Are you growing in desire and understanding for the things of God? We will change our strategy in teaching here moving forward and the AM Notes are one example. The very fact you are reading this means you are seeking the deeper things of God and we will do our best to help you study these passages for yourself. AM Notes will represent the framework of the passage along with other helpful context, but will give you opportunity to digest the passage with the help of the Spirit for yourself. I am saying we are moving on to meat and this means we will offer up more opportunity for the growing will continue to offer up the milk for the new born Christians and those who still need it.

Please consider the following opportunities for mature studies that we will offer this fall and Spring 2020:

- CSI- (Discipleship Sunday Nights in Multi-media Room 3rd floor room 301)
 - Description: "Comprehensive Scripture Interpretation"- *Giving the believer basic tools to study, examine, understand, apply, and share God's word* Sunday nights 6pm (October 6-November 3rd)
- Men's & Women's Bible Studies- (Wednesday Night studies 3rd floor)
 - Description: *Wednesday nights 7pm (Starting August 21st- Continuous from that point)*
 - Men's study in room 307
 - Women's study in Multi-media room 301
- SMALL GROUP STUDIES
 - (Wednesdays & Sunday night (Currently...open to alternate night upon request)-
 - Call office 834-4200 or Tim Chevalia Small group Coordinator (847) 849-7583

Pastor Michael

