



# First Corinthians

## Instructions to the Church

*1 Corinthians 1:2 (NIV)* To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ--their Lord and ours:

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## Instructions to the Church



### Her Diary:

Tonight, I thought my husband was acting weird. We had made plans to meet at a nice restaurant for dinner. I was shopping with my friends all day long, so I thought he was

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## Instructions to the Church

### I. The key to order is love vs.1-5

**1 Corinthians 14:1-5 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. <sup>2</sup> For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. <sup>3</sup> But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

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## Instructions to the Church

### I. The key to order is love vs.1-5

<sup>4</sup> He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. <sup>5</sup> I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified.

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## Instructions to the Church

### I. The key to order is love vs.1-5

**1 Corinthians 12:7 (NIV)** Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

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## Instructions to the Church

### **I. The key to order is love vs.1-5**

“strengthening” - building up; the act of one who promotes another's growth in Christian wisdom, piety, happiness, holiness.

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## Instructions to the Church

### **I. The key to order is love vs.1-5**

“encouragement” - to call near for the purpose of helping; to exhort, admonish, or implore.

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## Instructions to the Church

### **I. The key to order is love vs.1-5**

“comfort” Consolation - to speak or relate a story, whether for the purpose of persuading, or of arousing and stimulating, or of calming and consoling.



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### II. The key to love is truth vs.6, 12

**1 Corinthians 14:6 (NIV)** Now, brothers, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?

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## Instructions to the Church

### II. The key to love is truth vs.6, 12

**Revelation** - the reception of truth from God.

**Knowledge** - the practical understanding of truths.

**Prophecy** - the communication of truths.

**Instructions** - the application of truths.

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### II. The key to love is truth vs.6, 12

**1 Corinthians 14:7-8 (NIV)** <sup>7</sup> Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the flute or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes?

<sup>8</sup> Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

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## Instructions to the Church

### II. The key to love is truth vs.6, 12

**1 Corinthians 14:9 (NIV)** So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air.

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## Instructions to the Church

### II. The key to love is truth vs.6, 12

***1 Corinthians 14:12 (NIV)*** So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.

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### III. The key to truth is understanding vs.13-19

**1 Corinthians 14:13-19 (NIV)** <sup>13</sup> For this reason anyone who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret what he says. <sup>14</sup> For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. <sup>15</sup> So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.

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## Instructions to the Church

### III. The key to truth is understanding vs.13-19

<sup>16</sup> If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? <sup>17</sup> You may be giving thanks well enough, but the other man is not edified. <sup>18</sup> I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

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### III. The key to truth is understanding vs.13-19

<sup>19</sup> But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.



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## Instructions to the Church

### III. The key to truth is understanding vs.13-19

***Romans 12:1-4 (NIV)*** <sup>2</sup> Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

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## Instructions to the Church

### III. The key to truth is understanding vs.13-19

**Hebrews 4:12-13 (NIV)** <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

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## Instructions to the Church

### IV. The key to understanding is growth vs.20-25

**1 Corinthians 14:20-25 (NIV)** <sup>20</sup> Brothers, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

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### IV. The key to understanding is growth vs.20-25

***Luke 2:52 (NIV)*** And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

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## Instructions to the Church

### IV. The key to understanding is growth vs.20-25

*“What a Disciple Is” - “I need to learn to lead my life as he would lead it if he were I.” Dallas Willard*

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## Instructions to the Church

### IV. The key to understanding is growth vs.20-25

**2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

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## Instructions to the Church

### IV. The key to understanding is growth vs.20-25

***Colossians 1:10 (NIV)*** And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

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### V. The key to growth is order vs.26-33

**1 Corinthians 14:26-33 (NIV)** <sup>26</sup> What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. <sup>27</sup> If anyone speaks in a tongue, two--or at the most three--should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret.



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## Instructions to the Church

### **V. The key to growth is order vs.26-33**

<sup>28</sup> If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and God. <sup>29</sup> Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. <sup>30</sup> And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop.

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## Instructions to the Church

### **V. The key to growth is order vs.26-33**

<sup>31</sup> For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. <sup>32</sup> The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. <sup>33</sup> For God is not a God of disorder but of peace. As in all the congregations of the saints,

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## Instructions to the Church

### V. The key to growth is order vs.26-33

**1 Corinthians 14:16 (NIV)** If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying?



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