

People often leave or won't go to church today because they have been hurt, offended, or discouraged.

<u>Paul</u> (inspired by the Holy Spirit) writes to straighten out this <u>confused</u> and <u>divided</u> church.

- I. Corinth's geography made it a strategic and wealthy city.
 - A. Positioned on a peninsula, it was on a popular and vital trade route.





- II. Paul had founded the church in 50-51 AD on his second missionary journey. (see Acts 18)
 - A. In just two short years, the wheels were beginning to fall off for the Corinthian church!

- III. Paul begins his letter with <u>grace</u> and <u>encouragement</u>.
 - A. Reminds them of who he is— Apostle Paul!
 - B. Reminds them of who they are:
 - 1. Church of God
 - 2. Sanctified in Christ
 - 3. Called to be saints- together!

- III. Paul begins his letter with <u>grace</u> and <u>encouragement</u>.
 - C. Gives thanks to God for them
 - Thanking God for the <u>grace</u> he has given them
 - D. Reminding them they are enriched with <u>speech</u> and <u>knowledge</u>
 - E. Reminds them that the testimony of Christ is confirmed in them

- III. Paul begins his letter with <u>grace</u> and <u>encouragement</u>
 - F. Reminds them that they are not lacking in any <u>spiritual</u> <u>gift</u>
 - G. Reminds them that Christ will <u>sustain</u> them to the end, guiltless!
 - H. Reminds them that

 GOD IS FAITHFUL!

