



TERM 1, 2022



LOVE BUILDS UP

in the book of 1 Corinthians

1	JAN 30	GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-17
2	FEB 6	POWER IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 1:17-2:5
3	FEB 13	WISDOM IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-16
4	FEB 20	LEADERSHIP IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 3
	FEB 22	EQUIP: INTIMATE (WITH BETSY CUNNINGHAM)	
5	FEB 27	FAITHFULNESS IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 4
6	MAR 6	JUDGEMENT IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 5:1-6:8
7	MAR 13	PURITY IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-20
8	MAR 20	GODLINESS IN GOD'S CHURCH	1 CORINTHIANS 7
9	MAR 27	YOUR RIGHTS	1 CORINTHIANS 8
10	APR 3	USE YOUR RIGHTS	1 CORINTHIANS 9

LOVE BUILDS UP

How do you renovate a church lacking in love?

If you have ever been a part of a renovation or you are involved in the building industry, you might be tempted to say: "The tried and tested strategy is...DEMOLITION!!"

I wonder if the apostle Paul thought that as he considered the church he planted in Corinth. Did he have Miley Cyrus' 'wrecking ball' in his head? "Just send in the wrecking ball, that is the only real logical solution here"? Interestingly though, Paul doesn't contemplate that.

Why? Because this isn't Corinth's church. It's God's church. Daughters and sons of God who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus and are slowly being transformed into holy people. A people set apart, a different kind of people, yes, a complicated people, but one day, a loving people. Paul wants love to be built up in the Church of Corinth. It won't be a demolition. It will be a bold renovation.

Yes, like all renovations, so much work to be done! Some parts will need to be discarded, some sanded back...a lot! Some new parts, and lots of new paint!! But once God has finished with his church. You'll simply love it!!!

Do you love God's Church?
Are you ready for some hard work?
Ok, ok, ok, heaps and heaps of hard work!?

Then get ready, put on your hard hat on, its time for love to built up at Southern Cross.

Stew, Matt & James
January 2022

How to be growing followers of Jesus as you study God's Word...

In community

It's good to study the Bible by yourself but it's even better to do it with friends. Bible study is best when it happens in the context of community. Bible study shouldn't be just an unrelated add-on to the rest of your busy life, it should be an essential part of an integrated whole—Christian friends doing what Christian friends do. There are two key ways we should be making use of God's word in community: "word to life" and "life to word".

Word to life

When we study the Bible together we're letting God set the agenda. That's very important! We listen to God speak in the Bible, we work hard to help each other understand exactly what he's saying, and then together we apply what God is saying to our lives in the confidence that our loving Creator and Redeemer knows what's best for us. The important thing to remember is that we actually need each other throughout this whole process. It's great to study the Bible together!

Life to word

The second crucial way that we should be making use of the Bible in community is in day-to-day conversation, starting with the everyday happenings of our lives and applying the gospel to those situations. The great thing is that the better we get at moving from "word to life", the better we'll get at moving from "life to word" and the more our communities will be shaped by the gospel of Jesus! So enjoy—make the most of it—and let's watch as God shapes us to be more and more like his glorious Son!

WE WANT YOUR HAIKU!

“A haiku?” you say?

A haiku is a three-line poem, often with five syllables in the first line, seven syllables in the second line and five syllables in the third line. It usually doesn't rhyme.

During our series on 1 Corinthians, we're encouraging you to have a go at writing a haiku on the theme of “upside-down love”. Then submit your haiku to office@scpc.org.au and we'll share some with our church family in our Sunday gatherings.

We chose the theme of “upside down love” because in 1 Corinthians it's an upside down sort of love that *builds up* the church. An upside-down love that is humble, self denying and serving. A love that's epitomised in the Lord Jesus and him crucified for us.

If you'd like see some haiku examples and learn more about how to write one, then simply google it, there's lots of good info available. You may also like to read through 1 Corinthians 1-9 for inspiration. Feel free to be as creative as you like, you can choose to include the phrase “upside down love” or not. There may be an aspect, example or experience of this love that you'd like to highlight.

All the best and we can't wait to see all your haiku!

Love,

Ritchie and the SCPC staff team

FOR YOUR INSPIRATION

Christ's Love (by SCPC Staff)

In upside-down love
Christ leads the way of our love
He shows how to love

Rainbow Lorikeet (by Gabe Feathers McGee)

rainbow lorikeet
colourful character
matching plumage

[https://
gabriellebryden.wordpress.com/2012/02/06/
haiku-rainbow-lorikeet/](https://gabriellebryden.wordpress.com/2012/02/06/haiku-rainbow-lorikeet/)



Survival (by Judy)

A cyclone threatens
Batteries, tin food, water
How simple our needs

[https://www.art-in-tropical-australia.com/
australian-haikus.html](https://www.art-in-tropical-australia.com/australian-haikus.html)

Spring—My Garden (by Lee Walters)

Frangipanis bloom
Bouganvillea blossoms -
Butterflies arrive!

[https://www.art-in-tropical-australia.com/
australian-haikus.html](https://www.art-in-tropical-australia.com/australian-haikus.html)



Sample “Swedish Method” Study

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.

Read the chapter



BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?

Pay close attention to the logical flow of the passage. If it contains direct teaching (e.g. the NT letters), the most helpful tool in your kitbag is to follow the linking words (e.g. “therefore”, “so”, “but”). If your passage is more descriptive, the logic (and therefore the point) will be less explicit so you'll need to focus on the flow of the story to work it out. You'll also want to keep an eye out for significant themes which may be highlighted by repetition or by the use of metaphors or significant words or word families.



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?

The Bible is God's “special revelation”. In it he reveals himself to us so that we can know him. So the Bible is like a WINDOW through which we can see the most glorious view ever beheld—a view of God himself. When we read the Bible we should be keeping the authors purpose in mind—to know him—rather than coming with our own agendas.



MIRROR

3. What did you discover in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?

The Bible also acts like a MIRROR. As we read God's word and discover what he is like, we should also be looking to discover ourselves. A mirror allows us to see features and parts of ourselves that we wouldn't otherwise (and perhaps would rather not!) see. The Holy Spirit uses God's word to shape the way we think about ourselves and our circumstances. The Bible corrects our distorted views with the main purpose of helping us to relate rightly to God and our neighbour.



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?

The Bible, like all good stories, has a shape to it. It has a focus. It has a hero. God's self-revelation is fulfilled in Jesus. So no matter what part of the Bible we're reading we'll only fully understand it when we grasp how it points us to Jesus and enlarges and deepens our understanding of the gospel. Some tools to help in discovering this dimension of a passage are the SALVATION HISTORY tool (asking “what role does this passage play in the grand story of the bible?”); the TYPOLOGY tool (asking “how is this person (or group or situation) a type (or anti-type) of Jesus?”); and the THEMES tool (asking “what gospel themes are central to this passage?”). This can also be a good time to think about personal application—i.e. If this is true about Jesus and his gospel, then what difference should it make to my life?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions has this passage raised for you that remain unanswered?

One of the key skills in Bible discovery is to be inquisitive. Asking questions will help you get the most out of any passage. Whenever you feel any mental discord reading a passage it's a sign that there's still more to discover, so dig in! Any questions that remain unanswered are worthy of group discussion. Such questions might be logical ("I just don't get how the whole passage fits together"); theological ("this doesn't seem to match with my understanding of what the Bible teaches elsewhere"); semantic (I'm not sure I really know how those words are being used); etc...

6. How should you respond to this passage in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?

RESPONSE

This is perhaps the most important and most neglected aspect of Bible discovery. God has given us his word for a purpose—so that we can know him and be inwardly and then outwardly transformed by our relationship with him. The challenge is that we are insecure and resistant to the hard work of transformation. Because of our insecurity we're reluctant to admit to ourselves and admit to each other what needs to change. Because of our pride and laziness we'd rather deal with "general truths" that are easy to hold at arms length than let the truth come home. But the good news is we CAN change and community is the God-given context for growing followers of Jesus. You should spend more time discussing and praying through this question than any other.



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?

One of the big obstacles to growing as followers of Jesus is that we don't take our discoveries with us as we go about our everyday lives. And the best antidote to this problem is to be sharing our discoveries with others. Sharing with others is an awesome way of reinforcing our discoveries and driving them deeper down into our lived experience. In addition to the personal benefit, our discoveries have huge potential to deepen our relationships with our friends and to spur them on to be growing followers of Jesus too!



PRAY

Pray for one another in response to what you've discovered in God's word and what you've shared.

Prayer is an ESSENTIAL dimension of every aspect of DNA. Prayer transforms what would otherwise be introspective reflection (preparing on our own) or interpersonal dialogue (talking to each other) into something truly spiritual.

We will only "discover" the powerful truths of a passage if God opens our eyes to see. We will only "nurture" one another effectively if our discussion is shaped by the wisdom of the gospel. We will only "apply" purposefully and powerfully in response to God's word if the Holy Spirit enables true heart change.

So make sure that prayer isn't a rushed activity at the end of your time together. Pray as you prepare. Pray at the beginning, during, AND at the end of your time together. Pray for yourselves and for each other throughout the week. Anyone should feel free to initiate prayer. Everyone should be encouraged to participate in prayer.

And one final piece of advice, don't fall into the trap of "sharing prayer points". It chews up valuable time and tends to put our concerns ahead of God's concerns. If its really important it will have come up already in response to God's word. And if it hasn't you can always just pray for it off the cuff—no point in everyone hearing it twice!



Power in God's Church

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

1. How do you compare yourself to others? What criteria do you use?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 1:17-25

2. According to verse 17, what was Paul's mission to the Corinthian church? In other words, what was the one thing that he was supposed to have done there? Was this the criteria by which he was being measured by others?

3. How does Paul measure up against other preachers (possibly preaching the gospel, possibly sharing other ideas or philosophies)?

4. In what ways do the expectations and pursuits of the Jews and Greeks of Paul's day reflect our time and culture today?

5. What does Paul say that fancy words (worldly wisdom & eloquence) can do to the message of the cross?

6. How does this passage help us think about how we should present the gospel?

7. Discuss the various ways that the gospel is presented in the world today.
- What are some helpful things we could do as a church family to share the gospel?
 - What are some pitfalls to avoid?
 - What does Paul teach us about what's most important?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26 – 2:5

8. What words are repeated in verses 27 & 28? What does Paul emphasise about our contribution to our salvation? What does this tell us about ourselves (and all people)?

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

9. Even if our motives are missional, how might we be in danger of masking (poorly communicating) the message of the cross?

10. Imagine someone were to ask you, "What is the gospel?" Take a few minutes to write down your answer. Make it short, clear and as free from jargon as possible. Prepare, practice and pray for opportunities to share this good news with others.

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Mum & Me Time resumes	Tuesday 8th February
	Leadership Team	Wednesday 9th February
	Breaking the Silence Training	Saturday 12th February, 3-6pm



Power in God's Church

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 17:25–2:5

1. How would you summarise the central message of these passages?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in these passages about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in these passages about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How do these passages relate to, or contribute to, your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions have these passages raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

6. How will you respond to these passages in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?



PRAY

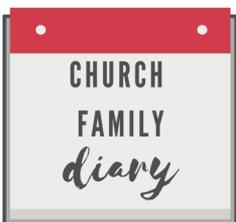
In light of what you've discussed, pray together using the ACTS acronym:

A doration (praise)

C onfession

T hanksgiving

S upplication (asking)



Mum & Me Time resumes

Tuesday 8th February

Leadership Team

Wednesday 9th February

Breaking the Silence Training

Saturday 12th February, 3-6pm



Wisdom in God's Church

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

As Christians, what's okay to compromise on, what's not okay to compromise on?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

1. What are the two sorts of wisdom in verses 6-8?

2. In context, what is at the heart of God's wisdom (e.g. 1:23-24, 2:1-2)? How does this also help us understand what verse 9 is about?

3. How do we come to understand God's wisdom for ourselves (verses 10-12)?

4. Is it possible to comprehend God's wisdom apart from the Spirit of God? Why/why not?

5. In the whole section of 1:18-2:16, the underlying problem is that the Christians in Corinth are marginalising the seemingly foolish message of the cross and focusing on what they feel looks wiser and more impressive to the world (later in the letter, we discover they are especially focused on spiritual gifts, e.g. ch 12-14). Throughout 1:18-2:16, what arguments does Paul use to draw them back to the cross?

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

6. In what unhelpful ways can people today be tempted to try and make Christianity look wise and impressive to the world?

7. In what way are you most tempted to try and make Christianity and the cross look a little less foolish and a little more acceptable? What should we be doing instead?

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Committee of Management	Wednesday 16th February, 7:30pm
	SCG Anniversary Sunday	Sunday 20th February
	Equip	Tuesday 22nd February



Wisdom in God's Church

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in these passages about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in these passages about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How do these passages relate to, or contribute to, your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions have these passages raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

6. How will you respond to these passages in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



SHARE

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Committee of Management

Wednesday 16th February, 7:30pm

SCG Anniversary Sunday

Sunday 20th February

Equip

Tuesday 22nd February

Equip: Intimate

Tuesday 22nd February 2022, 7:30-9pm

CHURCH FAMILY diary	The Lounge Room	Wednesday 23rd February
	Annual General Meeting	Sunday 27th February
	Young Adults Team Meeting	Wednesday 9th March



Faithfulness in God's Church

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

1. What does the world look for in leaders?
2. What do you look for in a Christian leader?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-17

3. How does Paul want to be understood by the Corinthians?
4. Whose judgement will Paul place himself under? Why?
5. What does triumph look like for Christian leadership and all Christians?
6. Look at verses 10-14. How is upside-down leadership displayed?
7. How does Paul view his relationship to the Corinthians? Why is he so thoroughly committed to them?

Nurture & Apply: the “NA” in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God’s word...

8. How is our view of leadership impacted by western culture? What do you think we need to ‘unlearn’?

9. Rico Tice is a pastor from central London, and he notes this interesting dynamic in Christian leadership where character triumphs all (see full quote below). Do you agree or disagree?

The Scriptures nowhere call men to teach truth without also commanding them to live it out. In the New Testament when Paul lists out the qualifications for being an “overseer”, there are twelve that speak to character or relationships, and only one about teaching. For those of us who are “able to teach” it is easy to read a line like “We must get the word right and we must get character right” and focus far more on the first clause than the second. But one out of two is not a pass mark here. A leader’s character must never be an afterthought, nor can strengths in teaching justify or make up for a weakness in conduct. A friend of mine who pastors a large church recently commented that a lot of the weaknesses in evangelical leadership stem from an emphasis on teaching and gifting but not on character and godliness. God’s word never gives us leave to do that.

Rico Tice ‘Faithful leaders’

10. The leaders in our church need to lead through loving leadership. Do you commit yourself to loving leadership in our church? When is that hard? When is that easy?

	Young Adults Team Meeting	Wednesday 9th March
	Preaching Group	Wednesday 16th March
	YC Youth Con	18-20 March



Faithfulness in God's Church

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-17

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in these passages about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in these passages about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How do these passages relate to, or contribute to, your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions have these passages raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

6. How will you respond to these passages in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?



PRAY

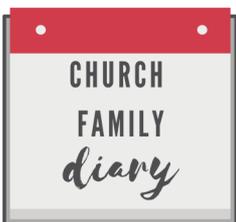
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S upplication (asking)



Young Adults Team Meeting	Wednesday 9th March
Preaching Group	Wednesday 16th March
YC Youth Con	18-20 March



Judgement in God's Church

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

"It's not right to judge what anyone else does." Do you agree or disagree? Are there any situations where your answer would change?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 5

In chapter 5, Paul addresses a significant pastoral problem in the church—a man is in a sexual relationship with his stepmother, and the church is proud of him.

1. How should the church have actually responded? What does Paul call them to do now? What does he hope this will result in?
2. Paul pictures this man as yeast in the dough of the Corinthian church (For us, perhaps 'mould' in 'bread' is a better analogy). If it's not dealt with, what will happen?
3. How does he apply the gospel of 'Christ and him crucified' to this tricky pastoral situation (verses 7-8)?
4. Who shouldn't the church judge? Who should it judge?

5. The church is often tempted to judge the world while refusing to judge itself. Why do you think this is?

6. What does this passage tell us about

- sin
- the church
- the gospel

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

7. How should we respond to sin in

- ourselves
- other believers
- the world

8. Which of these do you find most challenging to respond in a godly way to? Why?

BONUS

Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

What further problem does Paul identify in the church (v1,6)?

These people clearly want what they feel they deserve and are even willing to go to court to get it.

What attitude does Paul call them to instead?

What's the foundation and motivation for this attitude (1 Cor 2:2)?

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Young Adults Team Meeting	Wednesday 9th March
	Preaching Group	Wednesday 16th March
	YC Youth Con	18-20 March



Judgement in God's Church

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 5–6:8

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions have these passages raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

6. How will you respond to these passages in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?



PRAY

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Young Adults Team Meeting	Wednesday 9th March
Preaching Group	Wednesday 16th March
YC Youth Con	18-20 March



Purity in God's Church

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

1. What (or who) were you made for?
2. Do you feel entitled to do whatever you want with your (own) body?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

3. Paul emphasises that purity is important for all believers. According to verse 10, who will not inherit the kingdom of God? What do you think of the statement in verse 11, "and that is what **some** of you were"?

4. Do you include yourself in this verse? How does that make you feel?

Read Romans 3:23-24 & Hebrews 4:13-16.

5. What do you discover about yourself from these verses? How are we, therefore, to approach the God of grace? How does this help us to get alongside others within the church who are struggling with sexual sin (this could be applied to any sin)?

6. Knowing that God's grace is sufficient to cover sin, some of the Corinthian believers were submitting to unhelpful worldly desires (specifically, sexual sin). Why are they so carefree about their actions? What does this attitude say about the heart of those caught up in this sin? (note: there's a difference between **struggling** with sin and **submitting** to it.)

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

7. If we are justified by God's grace and therefore free from sin (past, present and future), why does God (or Paul) care about what we do (think about the effect of our actions on others – both believers and unbelievers)?

8. Paul explains that believers no longer belong to the world but to God (verses 19-20). How is slavery (ownership) to God different to slavery to sin (compare the masters and their motives)?

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

9. Paul gives us more than an instruction to flee from sexual sin. What else does he say? How does this help us to flee from sexual temptation?

10. Honestly evaluate your heart in the area of sexual temptation (share with the group if you can). What steps can you take to flee from the temptation of sexual sin?

In all these things, we must remind each other of the wonderful news of the gospel (freeing us from slavery to sin, giving us Christ's victory over sin and death).

Spend some time encouraging each other about God's amazing grace for us in Christ and of our identity in him.

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Preaching Group	Wednesday 16th March
	YC Youth Con	18-20 March
	Leadership Team	Wednesday 23rd March



Purity in God's Church

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-20

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions have these passages raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

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SHARE

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PRAY

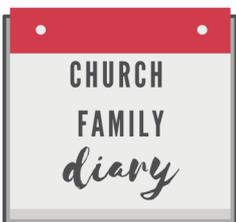
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Preaching Group

Wednesday 16th March

YC Youth Con

18-20 March

Leadership Team

Wednesday 23rd March



Godliness in God's Church

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

1. What did the sexual revolution in western culture seek to achieve? Did it achieve it?
2. Why is sexuality so complicated to discuss and explore in our culture?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-16

3. How does Paul reaffirm sex in Christian marriages and yet at the same time affirm singleness? How would these positions have clashed with the culture of the day?

4. How does he assist married women and men, who have now become believers, to negotiate their new life with their spouses?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:17-31

5. Now Paul is able to delicately affirm all in their calling and yet simultaneously draw them towards a new timetable for their life. How?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-40

6. In verses 36-38, Paul reveals two right answers, but why or how does 'devotion to the Lord' tip the scales?

7. Paul affirms 'to death do us part' in earthly marriages. How can the heavenly marriage shine new light on marriages in this life and the one to come (scan Matthew 22:23-33)?

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

8. How has 1 Corinthians 7 turned love 'upside-down' to the way our culture views relationships, sexuality and singleness?

9. What is one lesson you learned in love from 1 Corinthians, chapter seven?

10. How can contentment in our calling and devotion to the Lord go 'hand in hand' whether you are single or married? Discuss.

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Leadership Team	Wednesday 23rd March
	Committee of Management	Wednesday 30th March
	Book Club Discussion Night	Thursday 31st March



Godliness in God's Church

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 7

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions have these passages raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

6. How will you respond to these passages in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?



PRAY

In light of what you've discussed, pray together using the ACTS acronym:

A doration (praise)

C onfession

T hanksgiving

S upplication (asking)



Leadership Team	Wednesday 23rd March
Committee of Management	Wednesday 30th March
Book Club Discussion Night	Thursday 31st March



Your Rights

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

1. Are rights/freedoms important to you? Why?
2. What rights/freedoms would you give up for another? Discuss.

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 8

3. Why do we need love as well as knowledge (verses 1-3).
4. What does Paul say Christians know about God? What does this mean about gods and idols other people may worship (verses 4-6).
5. What should all Christians know about food sacrificed to idols? Can you think of modern-day examples (verse 8)?

6. What do verses 7, 10 & 11 say about some Christians, though? What does it mean for them?

7. Therefore, what does Paul encourage Christians to recognise and do for weaker brothers/sisters (verse 9, 12-13)?

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

Q8. What principle sits behind the key point that Paul makes in chapter 8? Where are you challenged with this?

Q9. Consider your rights and freedoms and where you might give them up to love and serve others in our church family? In the wider Christian community?

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Committee of Management	Wednesday 30th March
	Book Club Discussion Night	Thursday 31st March
	Good Friday	Friday 15th April



Your Rights

Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 8

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



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PRAY

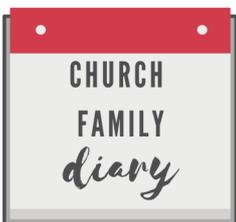
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Committee of Management

Wednesday 30th March

Book Club Discussion Night

Thursday 31st March

Good Friday

Friday 15th April



Use Your Rights

Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...

1. What has been the greatest investment of your time, energy or money? Has this investment reaped the greatest reward?

Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...

Read 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

2. Paul seems to be puffing himself up a little in these verses. Who (or what) is he really encouraging the Church to value?

3. What right does Paul have as a preacher of the gospel (verses 12a & 14)?

4. In verses 1-6, Paul confirms his rights as an apostle, yet he lays down his rights. Does he contradict his previous instructions to support gospel workers? Why does he not want to be paid for his service to the church?

5. How could Paul's ministry be affected if he were to be financially dependent on the church?

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

6. If Paul receives no financial support from the church, does that give him the right to do whatever he pleases? Has he avoided any form of accountability by waiving his right?

7. Why does Paul desire such freedom? Is he accountable to anyone?

Re-read verses 19-22. Notice the repetition in these verses.

8. Do you see compromise or conviction in Paul's actions described here? What is the fruit of Paul's freedom (who benefits from it)?

9. How is Paul following Christ's example here (see 2 Corinthians 8:9)?

Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...

10. What are the things that you are predominantly investing in? How do these things distract you from supporting gospel ministry or from your own opportunities to share the gospel?

11. Following Paul's example, as he followed the example of Christ (1 Cor 11:1), what changes can you make to invest the resources given to you for the benefit of others?

For further reflection and encouragement:

Psalm 34:1-3, Hebrews 13:15-16, 1 John 3:16, John 15:13

 CHURCH FAMILY diary	Good Friday	Friday 15th April
	Easter Sunday	Sunday 17th April
	Music Team Training	Sunday 24th April



Use Your Rights

Preparation Questions

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BIG IDEA

Read 1 Corinthians 9

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



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Good Friday	Friday 15th April
Easter Sunday	Sunday 17th April
Music Team Training	Sunday 24th April



God's Church



Power in God's Church



Wisdom in God's Church



NOTES Leadership in God's Church

NOTES

Faithfulness in God's Church



LOVE BUILDS UP #5
in the book of 1 Corinthians

NOTES

Judgement in God's Church



LOVE BUILDS UP #6
in the book of 1 Corinthians



Purity in God's Church



NOTES

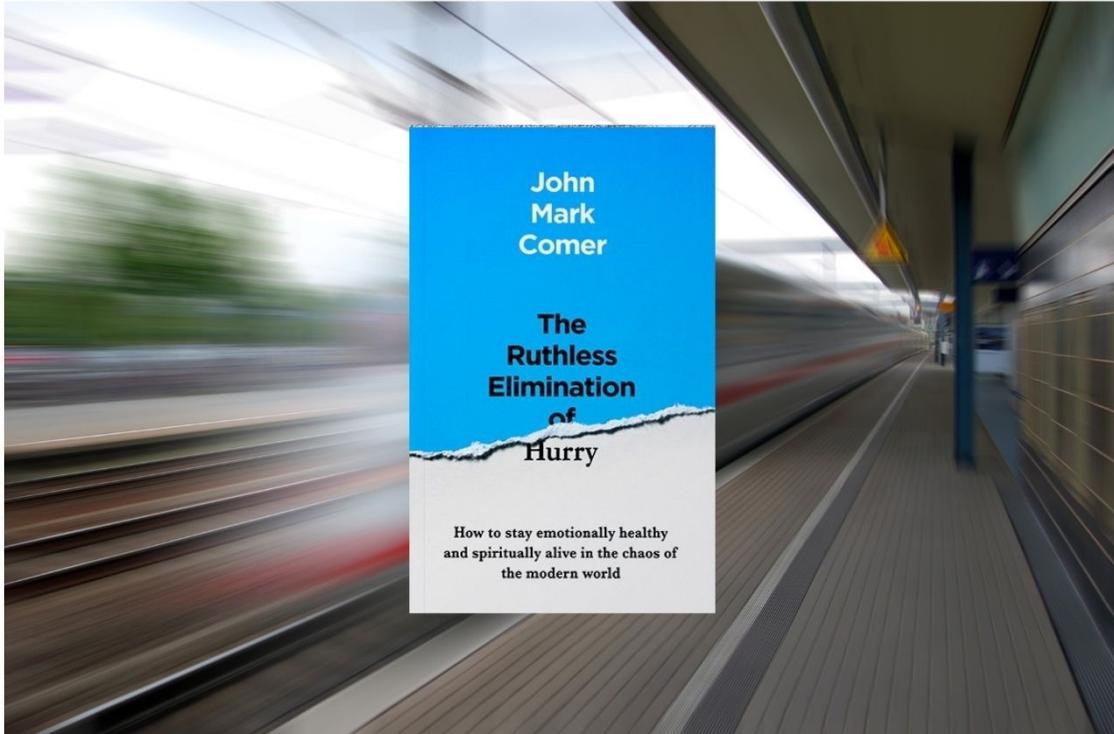
Godliness in God's Church



Your Rights

Use Your Rights





SCPC Book Club Term 1 2022

THE RUTHLESS ELIMINATION OF HURRY READING SCHEDULE

DATE

31 Jan - 6 Feb

7 Feb - 13 Feb

14 Feb - 20 Feb

21 Feb - 27 Feb

28 Feb - 6 Mar

7 Mar - 13 Mar

14 Mar - 20 Mar

21 Mar - 30 Mar

Thursday 31 March

CHAPTER

Pages 1-28

Pages 29-60

Pages 61-74

Pages 75-98

Pages 99-142

Pages 143-176

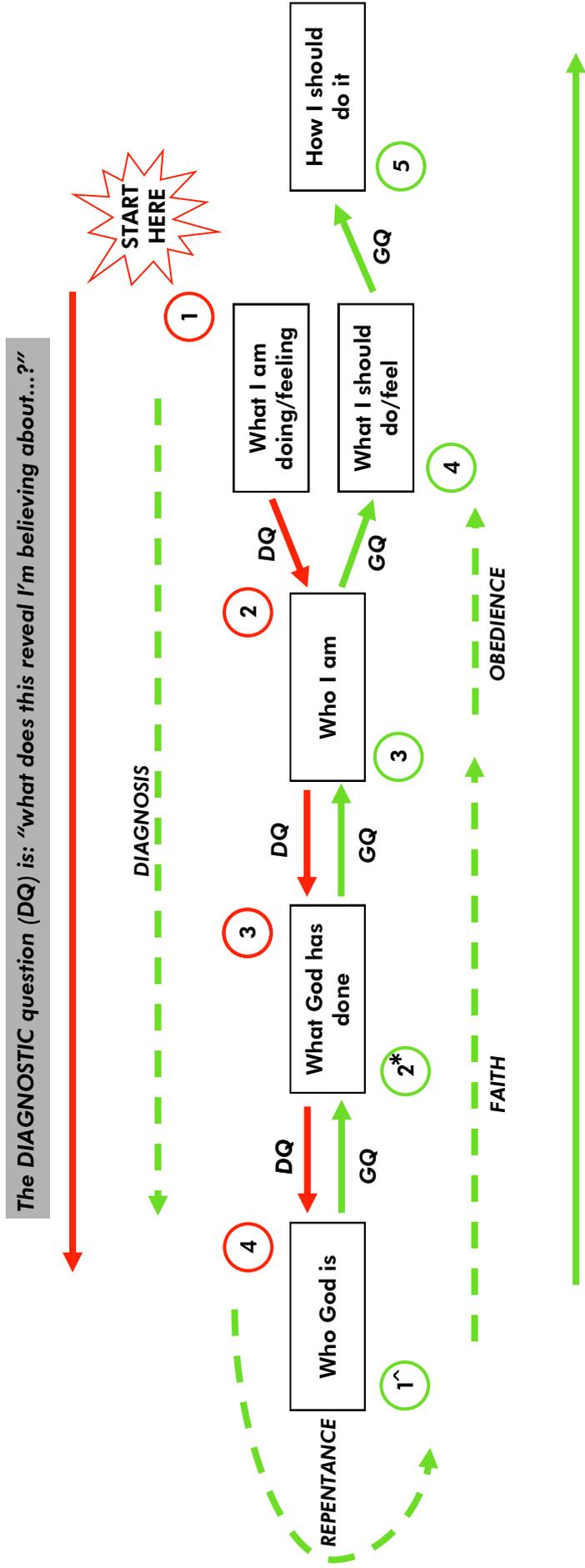
Pages 176-244

Pages 245-258

Discussion Night

5 questions for gospel growth

(gospel-centred diagnosis, repentance, faith & obedience)



^ NOTE: to help at this point you may want to consider "the 4Gs" which are a helpful summary of God's character: God is...
 GREAT: so we don't have to be in control
 GLORIOUS: so we don't have to fear others
 GOOD: so we don't have to look elsewhere
 GRACIOUS: so we don't have to prove ourselves

* NOTE: the focus here should be on Jesus and making him the hero of your story. Consider the 5 elements of the gospel: Jesus' incarnation, his life, his death, his resurrection & his return as one or more of these elements may be most relevant to your circumstances at a particular time.

COMING UP IN TERM 1...

FEBRUARY



**BREAKING
THE SILENCE**

SATURDAY 12 FEB | 3-6PM
@ Lismore High School

SCG Celebration Sunday

LOVE, THIS WAY

Invercauld House
9am
20th February 2022

Equip: Intimate

22nd February
7:30-9pm

THE LOUNGE ROOM

GETTING CLARITY ON THE GOOD LIFE IN RETIREMENT

23RD FEBRUARY 2022



Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Sunday 27th February 11:30am
at Lismore High

MARCH



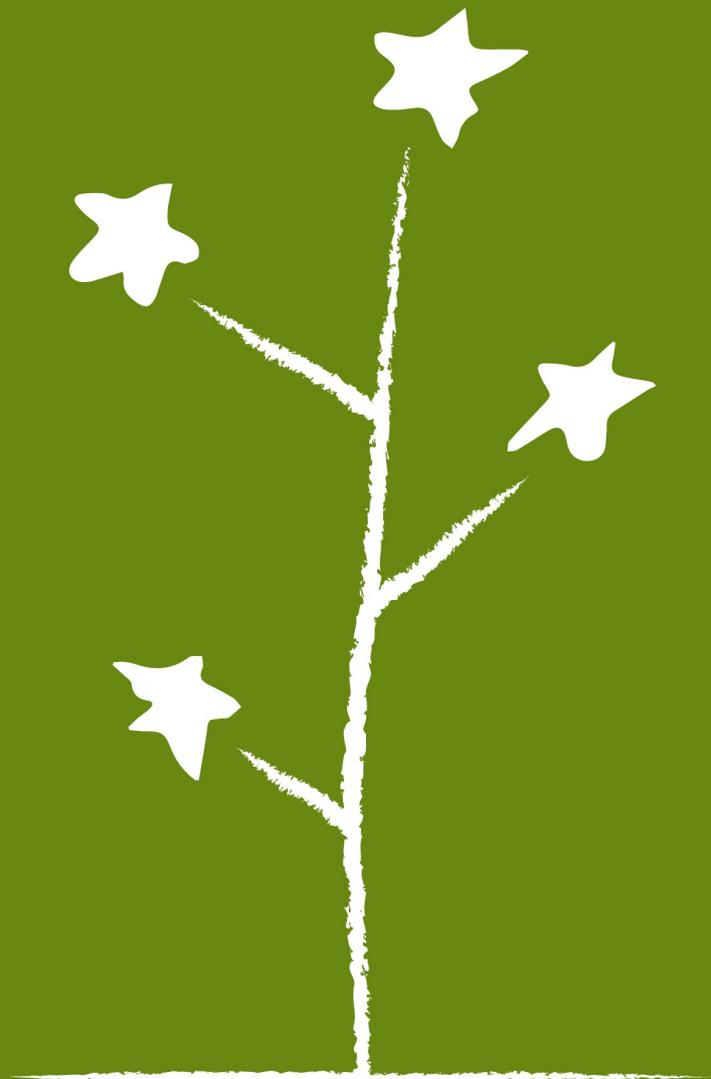
John Mark Comer
The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry
How to stay emotionally healthy and spiritually alive in the chaos of the modern world

BOOK CLUB
TERM 1
Discussion
THURSDAY 31ST MARCH 2022

APRIL

GOOD FRIDAY
9:00AM @ SCG
9:45AM @ LHS

EASTER SUNDAY
9:00AM @ SCG
9:45AM & 6PM @ LHS



**SOUTHERN CROSS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

growing followers of Jesus