

Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of April 27-28, 2024

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

Paul's Secret to Happiness

(I Corinthians 16)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together I Corinthians 16.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

When you read about the many trials Paul experienced in following God, do you ever find yourself questioning how he could seem so content? Elaborate.

In what ways does Paul's life potentially inspire you in your own walk?

Paul closes this letter to the Corinthian church by offering wisdom on how to move forward and Pastor Alan sums this up as a call to living a generous life (with the following four areas of emphasis).

1. A generosity with our money (vs. 1).

When have you experienced the joy of being generous with your finances?

Where are you currently struggling to trust that generosity with your money could truly be a blessing to you?

2. A generosity with our time (vs. 5-9).

When you are around people, how present are you to them?

If you are feeling challenged to be more present to people around you, what could this look like?

Pastor Alan shared the following quote from a Harvard study that has been gathering data for nearly 100 years, *“Contrary to what you might think, [happiness in life] is not [about] career achievement, money, exercise, or a healthy diet. The most consistent finding we've learned through 85 years of study is: Positive relationships keep us happier, healthier, and help us live longer. Period.”*

What are your reactions to this quote? Agree? Disagree? Elaborate.

3. A generosity with our honor (vs. 10-16).

How tempted are you to look for the negative in others?

In a media world filled with armchair quarterbacks and commentaries on just about everything, how difficult is it for you to honor those around you?

If there is currently a person or group of people who you are struggling to honor, what could it look like for you to reframe your perspective with this individual or these individuals?

4. A generosity with our affection (vs. 17-24).

How natural is it for you to show affection to those around you?

Whether this comes easily or more difficult for you, why is either the case?

If you are currently feeling called to express greater affection to someone, what could this look like?

The generous life Paul is calling the church of Corinth to provides a different message than what is often communicated by the world around us.

If you wrestle with trusting that a more generous life could truly lead to being a more fulfilled life, share a little bit about this struggle?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend's message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

Messages are available in audio or video on our App or at cccgreeley.org.