

The First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians

A Little Encouragement

1 Corinthians 11:2

1. **Praise** in the Midst of Correction

In this epistle, Paul addresses several areas of church life and practice which are in need of significant correction. Though there is much that is wrong with the church, and much that will still be addressed in the remainder of the letter, Paul is genuine in his encouragement of this church.

2. **Remembrance** in the Midst of Questions

Not all of the issues that Paul addresses in this letter were brought to his attention by the church (1 Cor. 1:11; 5:1; 11:18), many of them were. Though they were far from mature (1 Cor. 4:8ff) and though they had many areas of blindness and capitulation to the culture around them, they remained connected and committed to the apostle who brought them the good news.

3. **Holding Fast** in the Midst of Inconsistency

Having right doctrine does not necessarily result in right conduct or application. One of the distinctive factors about the Corinthian church is that with the exception of some false teaching concerning the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:12), all of the issues addressed in this epistle are areas of inconsistently applying the truths that Paul had taught.