

Learning to Live in Christian Community
What Makes a Church Great?
(1 Corinthians 1:1-9)

Why are some churches healthy, vibrant, effective, dynamic, and life-giving, while others are unhealthy, weak, discouraging, ineffective and nasty?

- Depending on the right resources.
- Aiming at the right measurements.

The church at Corinth couldn't break free from its love of Corinth.

The great church (God's "called out")...

1. Understand their individual call (2)

The community is as effective as the spiritual quality of its individual members .

Will you let go of the world so you can take hold of the Christ-life?

1. Understand where to invest their energies (4-5)

The great church grows rich in their abilities to make their life and ministry about promoting Christ rather than their own freewheeling freedoms.

1. Understand their responsibility to community (7)

The church has been gifted with all it needs , but to be great , it needs it all.

It's the power of everybody benefiting the whole community that makes all the difference.

The intentional under-use of spiritual gifts may bother God more than their ignorant misuse.

1. Understand their total dependency is on the Lord (8-9)

The church has not been called to be a service club that functions on the strength of collective human willpower and resourcefulness, the church is a Spiritual fellowship that draws every useful amount of energy from the divine strength graced it by God alone.