

OUTLINE OF FIRST CORINTHIANS¹

Opening the Letter: A Community Called by God (1:1-9)

- Salutation (1:1-3)
- Thanksgiving (1:4-9)

A Call for Unity in the Community (1:10-4:21)

- Factions in the Community (1:10-17)
- The Foolishness of the Cross Excludes Boasting (1:18-2:5)
- Wisdom for the Mature (2:6-3:4)
- The Community and Its Leaders Belong to God (3:5-23)
- Direct Confrontation with Corinthian Boasters (4:1-21)

A Call for Community Discipline (5:1-6:20)

- "Drive Out the Wicked Person from among You" (5:1-13)
- Legal Disputes Should Be Handled within the Community (6:1-11)
- "Glorify God in Your Body" (6:12-20)

Responses to Contested Issues in Corinth (7:1-15:58)

- Sex and Marriage at the Turn of the Ages (7:1-40)
- Idol Meat (8:1-11:1)
 - Knowledge Puffs Up, but Love Builds Up (8:1-13)
 - The Apostolic Example of Renouncing Rights (9:1-27)
 - Warning against Idolatry (10:1-22)
 - Conclusion: Use Your Freedom for the Glory of God (10:23-11:1)
- Community Worship (11:2—14:40)
 - Hairstyles and Gender Distinctions (11:2-16)
 - The Lord's Supper: Discerning the Body (11:17-34)
 - Spiritual Manifestations in Worship (12:1-14:40)
- The Resurrection of the Body (15:1-58)

Concluding Matters (16:1-24)

- The Collection and Travel Plans (16:1-12)
- Farewell (16:13-24)

¹ Richard Hays, *First Corinthians* (Louisville: John Knox Press, 1997), pp.13-14.