

Bible Study
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together everywhere

Together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
1 Corinthians 1:2

Charades with the Corinthians

Leader: Charades are fun for all ages. It helps get people laughing together which creates positive group memories. Try it! You might like it!

For each charade word, choose a volunteer to stand up front and act out the word. You can make this into a competitive game by dividing into teams or just have fun. You may want to have each of the charade words written on a 3"x5" card ahead of time.



Charade Word 1: Together

Guess Word

Question: Share about a time you felt you experienced what it means to be *together*. How did it feel? What circumstances brought it about?

Introduction: We have heard it and we know in some way or another that all the people who follow Jesus are one church. But there are so many of us it can be hard to get our heads around that idea. We also know from experience that the more people who try to get together the more problems seem to occur. Paul wrote this letter to the Corinthian church because they were struggling with how to follow Jesus together. Divisions and quarrels separated the people, and Paul was seeking to bring them back together. The principles Paul models in 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 can help us to overcome many kinds of divisions that separate us.

I believe God wants us to seek peace and pursue it. (See Psalm 34:14.) The Hebrew word we translate "peace" means more than just the absence of strife. It means something closer to "right relationships." When we are at peace, we are together. Together with God in right relationship. Together with others in right relationship. Together with the created world in right relationship.

Let's read 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 and look for ways to pursue *together*. Read the passage.

We are going to use charades to highlight some key words and thoughts from this passage today.



Charade Word 2: See

Guess Word

Key Thought: In order to pursue *together*, we need to *see* things from God's perspective.

Question: How does God see us in 1 Cor. 1:2? (*Together — He is their God and ours!*)

Our sight is so limited. What may seem obvious from our perspective is hidden from someone else. Our experience of worship and learning and following Jesus is one situation where this happens. Many around the world worship and learn in very different ways. And sometimes a Christian in our own city or church may follow Jesus in different ways as well.

Leader Option: Look up and print off a fun optical illusion from the internet. This site has printable ones that can go in a kid's lunch box. (<http://mrprintables.com/optical-illusion-lunchbox-notes.html>)

But 1 Samuel 16:7 and Matthew 16:23b (NLT) remind us that God's perspective is different than ours.

If the size of your group works for this, divide into two groups and have each group look up each of those verses and then look at the context. How did God see differently than Samuel and Peter saw? Report back.

One of the ways to pursue *together* is to seek God's perspective of His family. Another way is to learn about other ways that people follow Jesus. Subscribe to a missionary's newsletter or blog. Sit down and talk to someone from a different culture about their ways of worship and service.

Leader: This would be a great place to share a recent letter, story or video from a missionary. Note differences and similarities, and talk about what God must see when He looks at His everywhere family.



Charade Word 3: Bless

Guess Word

Key Thought: In order to pursue *together*, we can choose to *bless* one another.

- What is the blessing Paul gives to the church in verse 3? (*Grace and peace*)
- Where does a blessing come from? (*God*)
- Why is a blessing of grace and peace so fitting in this situation? Think about the definition of each.

Read Luke 6:27-38:

- Who are we to bless?
- What are some specific ways we can bless others from this passage?

As you read through this passage, can you choose a way to bless someone in the worldwide family of God this week? Write it down and make a plan to do it. You could even do it as a group next week.

Leader: You could bring notecards or stationary and have the group write notes to missionaries right there.

This passage leads well into our next key word in 1 Corinthians 1.



Charade Word 4: Pray

Guess Word

Key Thought: In order to pursue *together*, we can choose to *pray* for one another.

Look at 1 Cor. 1:4. Paul prays a specific way for the Corinthian church.

- What is it? (*He thanks God for them.*)
- What does he see in them to thank God for in verses 4-8?

When we pray, we can thank God for what He has done, what He is doing, and what He is going to do, just as Paul modeled in verses 4-8.

Thanking God for people requires us to reflect on the good we see in them. It requires us to stop and take time to look at the past and see how far God has already brought them. Do you know that Scripture tells us to “remember” more than 100 times?

Have different people look up the following verses and read them aloud.

- 1 Chronicles 16:11-12
- Psalm 71:16
- Psalm 77:11
- 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Remembering helps us to get out of our current situation and our feelings about it to see the bigger picture. Praying reminds us to take people and circumstances to God to ask for His perspective. Praying reminds us that God is OUR Father. As we pray for one another, our hearts are brought together in the spiritual realm.

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Leader: If you have brought a missionary letter or a card, you can pray as a group for specific requests.

Closing: Sing together the children's song, "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands" or watch the youtube video of the African Children's Choir version at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHZUMt2Zk1I>

