**Written by:** Paul (around 53-55 C.E.)

AKA: “Christians Behaving Badly”

DID YOU KNOW??? Paul wrote an earlier letter to the Corinthians, but it was lost

Paul “planted” the church in Corinth

Paul’s tag team partner in Corinth was **Apollos**, who took over for Paul.

Apollos- “was a native of Alexandria and was well-educated and effective in his use of the scriptures” (Acts 18:24, CEB). The figure of Apollos has become symbolic of both **eloquence** and **knowledge** **of scripture**.

**FACTOID!** Luther suggested that ***Apollos*** was the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews, BUT since we have no sample of writing from Apollos with which to compare Hebrews, Luther’s suggestion is unsubstantiated.

The Big Lead: “Who’s in charge here?!”

The early church faced ***many*** ““Quarrels”:

* Competing claims to wisdom
* Wealth
* Power
* Spiritual gifts
* Marriage and D-I-V-O-R-C-E
  + AKA “Reasons why Paul is a single dude”
* Food
* Legal issues
* Abuse of the Lord’s Table

The Big Answer: “LOVE, Baby!” (1 Corinthians 13)

1:9 “God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

**KOINONIA-** close association involving mutual interests and sharing, association, communion, fellowship, close relationship, ***a participation, a sharing*** This **KOINONIA** is related to love (agape), which plays a big part of Paul’s letter. In his translation of the Bible, Luther placed a marginal note at this passage: “That is, you are **co-heirs** and **co-associates** of all Christ’s blessings.”

**PJ PICKS:**

1:18-25- WISDOM

Stoic- Power & Control > Love

* “Cosmic order preserved the social order”
* Christ- Love > Power & Control
* “What rules the day? The love that bears the burdens of others not social order”

1:26-31 GOD CHOSE! (God is the subject of the verbs)

* What is foolish to shame the wise
* What is weak in the world to shame the strong
* What is low/despised to reduce things that are

Chapter 9: “Why should we help YOU, Paul?” or “How dare you want to earn something from what YOU started!”

*“24 Don’t you know that all the runners in the stadium run, but only one gets the prize? So run to win. 25 Everyone who competes practices self-discipline in everything.* ***The runners do this to get a crown of leaves that shrivel up and die, but we do it to receive a crown that never dies****.”*

Chapter 10: Pick One

“Either worship God or another god, you can’t do both.”

Chapter 11: HAIR the non-musical

Chapter 12: Body Talk

We are all different parts of the body, so we also have different gifts of the Spirit. We can’t all be the same part or gift.

Chapter 13: LOVE without the wedding bouquets