

THE CHURCH BEAUTIFUL MESS

A STUDY ON 1 CORINTHIANS



A Beautiful Mess
The Architecture of Growth
1 Corinthians 3
Pastor Jonathan Palaci



Is the growth and success of my life, family, and church upon the foundation and source of MY priorities of worldliness or is it upon God's Wisdom (Christ)? And if it is upon Christ, then what does building upon the foundation of Christ look like?



1. The hindrance of God's growth within a local church body is the willful spiritual immaturity of its members living in **WORLD-liness.**



2. The channel of God's growth within a church is the willful spiritual growth of its members living in GOD-liness.



**What is my plan
of growth upon
my faith in
Christ?**



Growth Plan:

**1. What is our provision? – God's
Grace**

*(V10) 10 By the grace God has
given me, I laid a foundation as a
wise (master) builder*



Growth Plan:

2. Who are our Architects? – The Apostles (Paul)

I laid a foundation as a wise (master) builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care.



Growth Plan:

3. Who is our foundation? – Jesus Christ

11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.



Growth Plan:

4. What are the building materials? – All Believers' Efforts

12 If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13 their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work.



Reflection - Self Inspection #1

In our plan of growth, what is the level of our passion as we serve God?

13 their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work.



Growth Plan:

5. What is the Promise? – Reward or Loss

14 If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. 15 If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.



Growth Plan:

6. Who is the Occupant – Holy Spirit

16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.



Reflection – Self Inspection #2

In our plan of growth, what is our proper perspective to keep in our process of growth?



The Proper Perspective:

a. Of OURSELVES

18 Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise by the standards of this age, you should become “fools” so that you may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight. As it is written: “He catches the wise in their craftiness”; 20 and again, “The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile.”



The Proper Perspective:

b. Of OTHERS

21 So then, no more boasting about human leaders! All things are yours,²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas



The Proper Perspective:

c. Of our earthly POSSESSIONS

*or the world or life or death or
the present or the future—all
are yours,*



**The Proper Perspective:
d. Of our POSSESSOR**

*23 and you are of Christ,
and Christ is of God.*