

LIFE GROUP

Notes

Session 1



READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-10

IN

Introduction

Our society is really preoccupied with the idea of beauty.

QUESTION: if you have a chance look at images from fashion magazines/websites - what does our society 'think' is beautiful?

Do you agree with these statements (from a google search on beauty in society):
'Society WORSHIPS those that are beautiful and PUTS DOWN those who aren't. If you don't see a problem with this you're a part of the problem'

'Don't tell me that inner beauty is more important than outer beauty, because in this society it isn't. No one gives you a chance to see if you're beautiful on the inside if you aren't on the outside'

UP

Explore

Context - this letter is written to a relatively new church that was facing some internal problems. Outwardly they were very 'spiritual'; exercising the charismatic gifts, but inwardly there were divisions and sin that were going unchecked - Paul as a Pastor was concerned about their inner beauty as God's church. He is writing this letter to address some serious issues... let us see how he begins the letter:

- Despite the pressing issues that need addressing - how does Paul begin his letter? (v1-4)
 - How does he describe the church? (v2)
 - What do these words mean to you?
 - What does Paul say the church has received? (v4-7)
 - What is Paul's desire for the church? (8-10)
 - Why do you think it was important for Paul to start his letter this way?
 - Think about yourselves - what have you received from God?
 - In the light of this passage - how do you feel God is speaking to you as individuals; as a group and as a local church?
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OUT

Impact

Read John 13:34-35

Let this passage inform your prayers for one another and for those around us.