

**Lesson 1: The Quest for Truth**

1. Science in the news (and in our lives)
2. Life’s ultimate questions

* Origin –
* Purpose –
* Destiny –

1. Three pathways to truth
2. God’s Word: The Christian’s source of ultimate truth
3. Prepare to read Acts 18:1-4. This text describes a part of Paul’s second missionary journey. What city did Paul visit? We will follow with a brief discussion of this ancient city.
4. **Read Acts 18:1-4.** What was Paul’s approach in verse four as he dealt with the residents of this city?
5. **Read I Corinthians 1:1-3.** What personal status does Paul identify in his greeting? What is the importance of this status for his readers?
6. **Read verses 4-9.** For what does Paul give thanks?
7. **See Romans 1:8; Ephesians 1:15; Philippians 1:3-7 and 4:10-20; Colossians 1:3-6. Compare these references to 1 Corinthians 3:1-4.** Contrast Paul’s “thanksgiving” in his opening words to the Corinthians with similar greetings to the previous four congregations.
8. What name is mentioned directly or indirectly in each of the first nine verses of I Corinthians 1? Why is this important?
9. **Read I Corinthians 1:17.** What does Paul say about his approach to gospel ministry in this verse that probably disappointed the Corinthian Christians?
10. **Read I Corinthians 1:18.** What does Paul say about the message of the cross?
11. **Read** **I Corinthians 1:19** and compare with **Isaiah 29:14.** What kind of wisdom does Paul challenge?
12. **Read I Corinthians 1:20-25.** How were the Jews and Greeks (both groups found in Corinth) different in their resistance to the truth taught by Paul?
13. **Read I Corinthians 1:26-31.**  How does Paul emphasize the concept of grace?
14. **Read I Corinthians 2:1-5.** What is once again Paul’s point of emphasis?
15. **Read I Corinthians 2:6-16.** How does Paul describe true wisdom?
16. **Conclude by reading I Corinthians 3:18-23**. What parallels do you see as you compare the Corinthian congregation with today’s world?