

**A Fond Farewell-Final Words of Wisdom
I Corinthians 16**

In First Corinthians Paul has written a hard letter to hard people. Paul concludes with some harsh admonitions and some warm affirmation.

I. The Offering from the Church 16:1-4

A. The Procedure for the Offering ;1-2

1. Program of Giving

2. Principles for Giving

B. The Protection of the Offering :3-4

II. The Travel Plans of Paul and his Team- The Three Amigos :5-12

A. Paul's plans include an extended trip to Corinth after some additional ministry in Ephesus and a summer preaching tour through Macedonia :5-9

B. Timothy's possible visit to Corinth in Paul's place is to be facilitated by compassion and cooperation 10-11

C. Apollos did not desire to return to Corinth at that time despite Paul's urging :12

III. The Final Word of Speaking the Truth in Love- A Blend of Grace and Truth 16:13-24

A. In Summary, the Corinthian Christians' Conduct must Change to Correct their Deficiencies 13-18

1. Paul Exhorts them to Respond to the Basics of the Christian Life :13-14

Watchfulness

Steadfastness

Manly Vigor and Maturity

Moral Strength

Living in Love

2. Paul Exhorts them to Respect Their Leaders :15-18

B. In Conclusion :19-24

1. A Final Greeting to the Church :19-20

2. A Curse on those who do not love the Lord :21-22

3. A Benediction of love on all :23-24

Conclusion of First Corinthians

1. Christians and churches can be confused on doctrine and deportment.
2. Leaders are to speak the truth in love to encourage educate and exhort both concerning doctrinal truth and moral behavior. Church discipline
3. Christians don't always respond as they should.
4. Leaders are to remain optimistic and hopeful for the work of the HS in the lives of the saints.

The Apostle Paul has demonstrated tremendous spiritual maturity in dealing with this church. He has blended encouragement with exhortation all the while putting up with personal attack. He truly has given us a model of what it means to speak the truth in love and demonstrated the great balance of grace and truth.