

26-0510p - Detailed Summary

26-0510p - Paul's Exhortation to the Corinthian Church, Part 2, Jim Lokenbauer

Bible Reader: John Nousek

This detailed summary by Grok, xAI, (Transcription by TurboScribe.ai)

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Paul's Exhortation to the Corinthian Church, Part 2

Scripture Reading

Bible Reader (0:04 - 0:34): John Nousek 1 Corinthians 15:58: John read God's Word from 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be	<i>continued</i> steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."
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Summary of Transcript (0:04 - 25:09), Preacher: Jim Lokenbauer

(0:38 - 1:51) Introduction to Paul's Exhortation

Jim greeted the congregation, hoped they had a lovely Mother's Day with family, and explained that the evening message concludes Paul's exhortation to the Corinthian church. That morning they had studied Paul's fatherly relationship with this young church that experienced many growing pains and behavioral issues. Paul corrected them with loving instruction and even disciplined a member living in serious sin. The sermon had already covered three steps of Paul's four-step correction method: affirm and accept, address and admonish, and rebuke and correct. The final step is exhort and encourage, drawn from 1 Corinthians 16:13-14: "Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be men of courage, be strong, do everything in love."

(1:51 - 5:02) Be on Your Guard

The first command is "be on your guard." The Greek word **gregorio** means to be alert, watchful, vigilant, and ready. This vigilance applies to every sphere of the Christian life—at church, home, work, alone, or in a crowd. Christians face both human and spiritual enemies. Jude urges believers to contend for the faith rather than remain silent. Peter warns in 1 Peter 5 that the devil prowls like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. The Corinthians were to guard against the very problems Paul had addressed: division, sexual impurity, false teachings and teachers, moral wickedness, incorrect worship, and harming the faith of weaker brothers. All these are fiery arrows from Satan's quiver. Believers must do everything out of love, putting others first, and remain ever ready for Christ's return. Jesus used the same word **gregorio** in Matthew 24 and 25 when warning His followers to stay alert because no one knows the hour of His coming. He will return like a thief in the night.

(5:02 - 10:37) Stand Firm in the Faith

The second exhortation is "stand firm in the faith." "The faith" refers to the gospel itself—standing firm on God's Word and the good news of Christ. Believers learn to recognize Jesus' voice through time spent in Scripture, study, and prayer, enabling them to reject contrary teachings as the voice of a stranger. When temptations come, Christians say no to ungodliness and abide in His Word. Paul echoes this in 1 Corinthians 15:58, urging them to stand firm, let nothing move them, and always abound in the Lord's work, knowing their labor is not in vain. Standing firm means continuing diligent service even when feeling alone or heavily burdened, proving genuine faith through tireless labor for the Lord who needs workers, not shirkers. Paul told the Philippians to live worthy of the gospel by standing firm in one spirit, striving together for the faith. In 2 Thessalonians 2, believers are to stand firm and hold to the teachings delivered by word or letter. This steadfast belief in God's Word persists despite worldly mockery of faith in the invisible God and the resurrection. Jesus warned that the world would hate His followers, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

(10:37 - 15:02) Be Men of Courage

The third command is "be men of courage." Increased knowledge of God's Word strengthens faith and brings more grace, producing greater courage and trust that God has our back. God supplies everything needed for life and godliness. Godliness includes courage like that of our Savior. Jesus demonstrated supreme courage by setting His face like flint toward Calvary, knowing the torture and death that awaited Him. He endured crucifixion—the worst form of execution—for humanity's sake. Psalm 22, quoted by David, reveals the Messiah's trust in God amid suffering. Jesus trusted the Father completely, declaring "It is finished" and committing His spirit into God's hands. His resurrection proved His sinless life; death could not hold the One declared innocent and Son of God with power. Christians are called to similar courage when facing adversity, persecution, conflict, or even death.

(15:02 - 16:53) Be Strong

The fourth exhortation is "be strong." Strength is found in the Lord, not in ourselves. Psalms repeatedly call believers to be strong, take courage, hope in Yahweh, wait on Him, and seek His face. Relying on personal strength leads to failure, so Christians must turn situations over to God in prayer, trusting His power and timing to work things for good. Paul instructs in Ephesians 6 to be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power while putting on the full armor of God. This is a spiritual battle. Jesus overcame Satan's temptations by using the Father's strength and Word; believers must do the same, taking Scripture as their sword.

(16:53 - 24:47) Do Everything in Love

The final command is "do everything in love." Love is the Christian's guiding principle because God is love and sent His Son for the world. Love heads the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5 and must characterize every action. God's loving nature has remained consistent from creation through the patriarchs, Israel, and to believers today. John teaches that those who love are born of God and know God, while lack of love reveals ignorance of God. God showed His love by sending Christ as atoning sacrifice, so we ought to love one another. The biblical definition of agape love appears in 1 Corinthians 13: it is patient, kind, does not envy, does not boast, is not proud, not rude, not self-

seeking, not easily angered, keeps no record of wrongs, does not delight in evil but rejoices with truth, always protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres. Love never fails. Agape is active godly virtue, different from phileo or eros love, and is to be practiced toward everyone. Jesus commanded disciples to love one another as He loved them, by which the world recognizes them. Paul summarized that the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. This love prevents division, keeps believers on the right path, and fulfills Paul's encouraging correction of the Corinthian church.

(24:47 - 25:05) Closing and Invitation

Paul's final words to the Corinthians are: be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong, and do everything in love. Jim invited anyone with a need to come forward so the church could lovingly assist.