

Sermon Reflections

Church Building Codes (1 Corinthians 3:10-17)

Summary: How you try and build up the church can have drastic, even eternal consequences. How must we build up the church, the right way?

Be Careful How You Build

1. Build on The Right Foundation (v. 11)

- Consider 1 Corinthians 2:2 and 1 Corinthians 15:3. Paul had an unwavering desire to keep Christ at the center everything without getting caught up in secondary matters. What do you think caused him to be so Christ focused considering everything that he went through?
- What are some areas that our focus shifts which cause us to not keep Christ and Him crucified as the ultimate focus?
- What can we do better to ensure that we stay focused on Christ more than our favorite topic? What can a failure to stay focused on Christ as the foundation for our church cause?

2. Build with The Right Material (vv. 12–13)

- V.12 makes it clear that our building material will be tested. How does this warning impact that way you think about your own evangelism, service, ministry, or life in general?
- When we hear of something troubling or confusing in the world, what should you do? How does God's Word bring clarity and comfort? List a few passages that speak to this.
- What are some common ways that we're tempted to lay with wrong materials?
- What would it look like when a church embraces building with flammable materials?
- Church growth isn't always a packed house, rather good growth is maturity amongst the flock of God. What are some characteristics of a mature Christian? What is the goal of a mature Christian when speaking to another brother/sister?

3. Build for The Righteous Reward (vv. 14-15)

- The wicked have their reward in this life as they labor for the praise of others whereas the believer labors quietly and persistently looking heavenward to the just judge to reward them at His coming. Consider Matthew 6:20 where our Lord encourages us to store up treasure in heaven. How does this truth direct us in our day-to-day life?
- How does 1 Corinthians 3:15 affect your thinking as a co-worker?

4. Build with The Right Respect (vv. 16–17)

- V. 16 speaks about believers being God's temple. Why does Paul bring this up?
- The church is the bride of Christ that has been purchased with His own blood. How should this affect how we react when we have frustrations with others within the body of Christ?