

Some Background on Corinth

The Greek city of Corinth sat on an isthmus that connected the Peloponnese with Attica and the rest of mainland Greece. In 146 BC, the ancient city was completely destroyed by the Romans during the conquest of Greece. Nothing was left of the ancient city except a single temple on the acropolis. Julius Caesar later ordered Corinth rebuilt as a *colonia*, a city directly administered by the Senate, so it could serve as the capital of the Roman province of Achaia, most of what is today southern Greece.

When Paul visited Corinth sometime before AD 50, he was visiting a bustling, new city of around 50,000 people that was bursting at the seams with new wealth that came mostly from sea trade. Merchants from Italy and further west would dock in the western harbor of Lechaem and their ships would be ported along a road called the *Diolkos* (literally “the portage”) to the eastern harbor of Cenchreae. They would then sail on to the eastern Mediterranean. During this trip, the sailors were at their leisure in the city, so Corinth became well known for its hospitality services—including companionship and other entertainment.

Paul spent a more than a year and a half in Corinth, working alongside Silas and Timothy, as well as Aquila and Prisca, who became lifelong partners in ministry (Acts 18:1–18). The church there met in the house of a Gentile named Titius Justus and was largely composed of Gentiles, although some Jews did come to faith there as well. He probably returned to Corinth at some point (Acts 20:2–3) before going to Jerusalem and ultimately on to Rome.

The two letters we have from Paul to the Corinthians are only half of the conversation, since we do not have the letters the Corinthians sent to Paul in the first place. It is likely that Paul wrote at least one other letter to the church there as well. Combined, the two letters are the lengthiest correspondence we have from Paul, and they cover a truly sweeping number of issues.

Financial Summary

2023 Budget	\$224,885	Budget to Date	\$112,450
Weekly Budget	\$4,325	Giving to Date	\$116,710

Thank you again to all for your generous stewardship. You can give via the offering box in the back of the sanctuary, via mail, or online at bedfordroad.org/giving.



*Creating environments where people
encounter Jesus and journey together*

Today's Worship

“Lord, Reign in Me”

© 1998, Brenton Brown, CCLI #2490706

“Christ Be Magnified”

© 2019, Cody Carnes, Cory Asbury, and Ethan Hulse, CCLI# 7139866

- Lord's Table -

“Doxology”

“Come Lift Up Your Sorrows”

© 2005, Michael Card and Vance Taylor, CCLI# 4991430

“Satisfied in You (Psalm 42)”

© 2012, Brian Eichelberger, CCLI# 7008238

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

Upcoming Events

Bible Study Update

Our small group Bible studies are now on their summer hiatus.

July

- 9 Kids' Ministry Volunteer Training, after worship (lunch provided)
- 16 Michael Gilchrist, Barbecue Lunch after worship
- 23 Members Workshop [tentative], see Ray Pouliot if you are interested.

August

- 5 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 13 God's Backyard "Soft" Relaunch
Youth Group Ice Cream Social [tentative, details TBD]

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The Mess You've Made with Your Favorite Preachers

(1 Cor 1:10-4:20)

The Big Idea:

Nursery is provided 9:30-11:30am for children ages 0-3.
 Our children's ministry (God's Backyard) is on a summer hiatus.
 We will be doing a "soft opening" of the updated program in August,
 with the full program returning on September 10.