Message Notes

"Thankful?!?!? For what?!?!"

Introduction – "Something just doesn't seem right..."

From 1 Corinthians 1:1-3, Acts 18

Paul the Church Planter

Paul the Leadership Developer

Sosthenes

Background to the book of 1st Corinthians

Corinth - the City

Corinth - the People

What Paul should do to this church!

Paul's reaction to this church that is keeping the fun in dysfunctional! (1 Cor 1:4a)

How could possibly be thankful for this messed up church?

- 1. The grace of Jesus was upon them. (1 Cor 1:4b)
- 2. Jesus gave them riches in every way ~ speech and mind. (1 Cor 1:5)
- 3. Jesus changed them through the message of His Gospel and transformation was evident in their lives (1 Cor 1:6)
- 4. Jesus was coursing through their spiritual veins (1 Cor 1:7)
- 5. Paul's trust was secure because of God's faithfulness (1 Cor 1:8-9)

Application - "Who do you love?"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: ³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:4-9

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Colossians 3:12-14

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

1 Peter 4:8b

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.















Paul's opening remarks to the church in Corinth

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Paul was the founding pastor of the church in Corinth (c. AD 49-51)



Actually Paul's second letter



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1.Wrote first to them about an issue of sin to be dealt wtih:

1 Corinthians 5:9



Actually Paul's second letter

2. The church writes Paul back:

"Now for the matters you wrote about ..."

(1 Cor 7:1)



Actually Paul's second letter

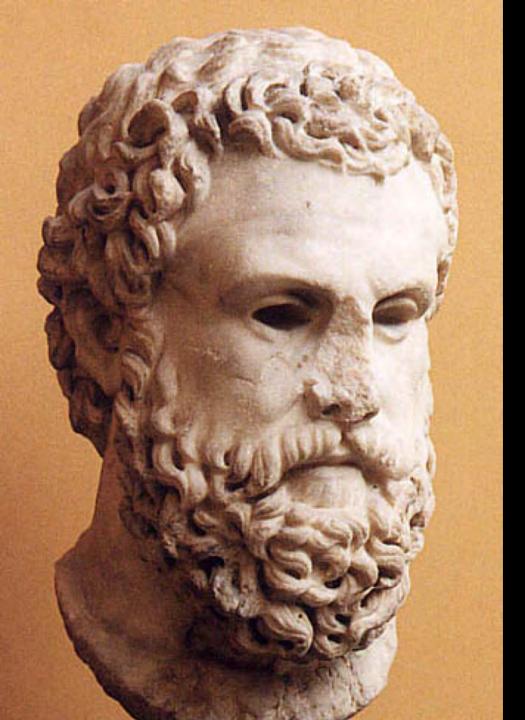
3. Paul now writes this letter to address issues in the church he has heard about in addition to issues they are concerned about.

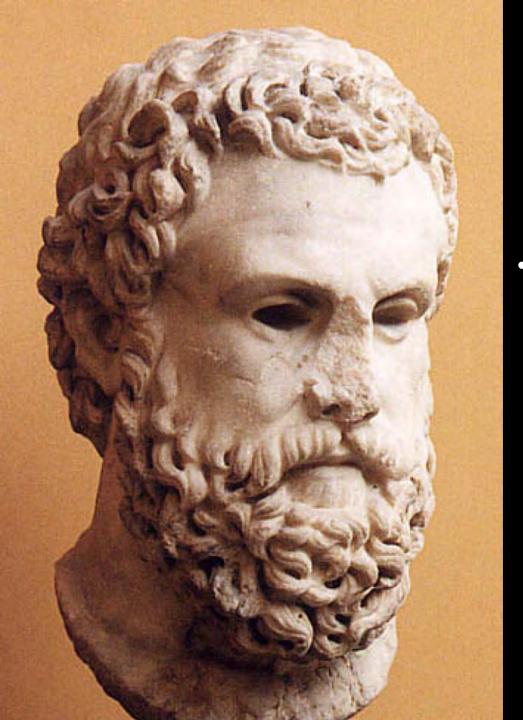


Paul's Second Church Planting Journey - Acts 15:40-18:23 (c. AD 49-52)

Corinth: The City

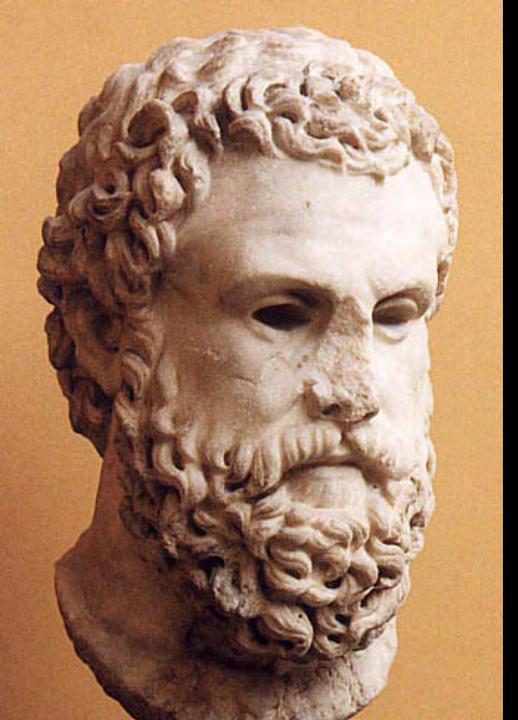




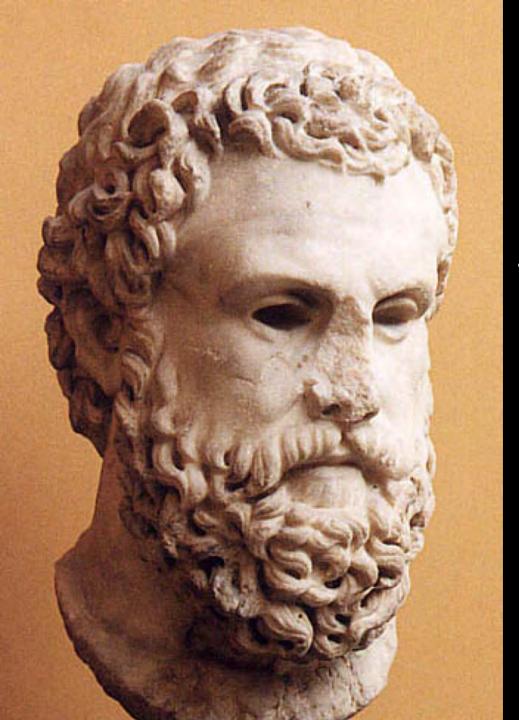


10 issues Paul has to bring up

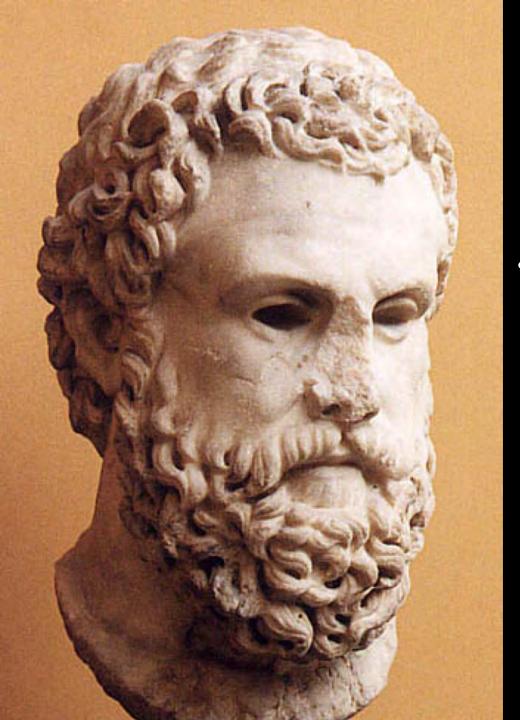
• Divisions among the leadership



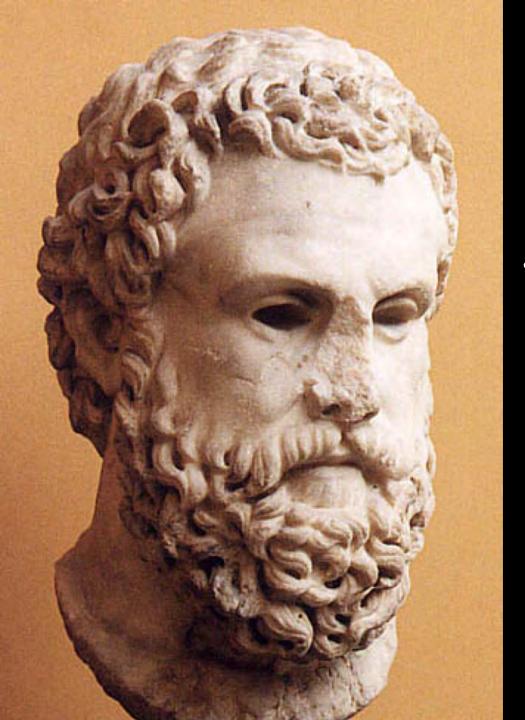
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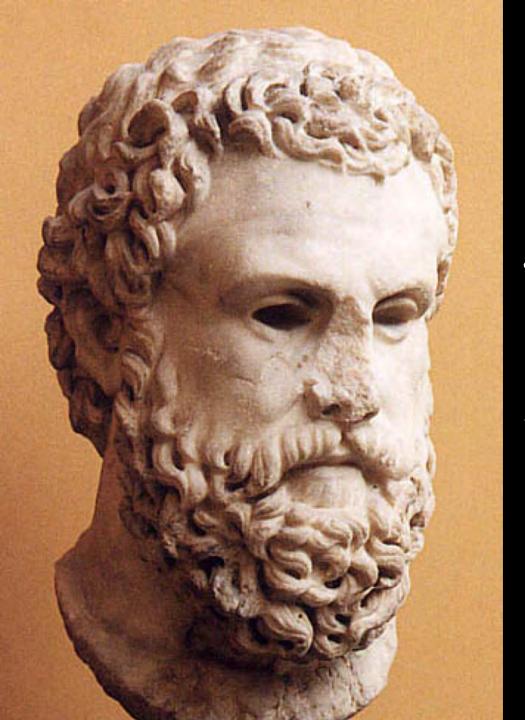


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 "Freedom in Christ" is their montra
- The rich and sophisticated are taking advantage of others, even taking each other to court

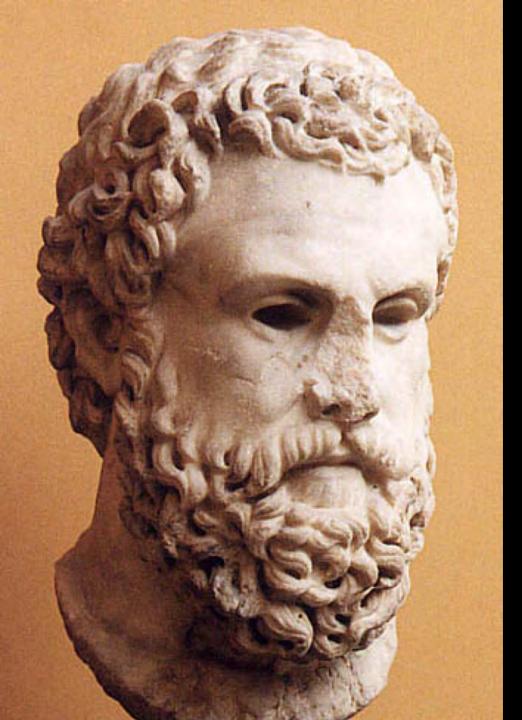


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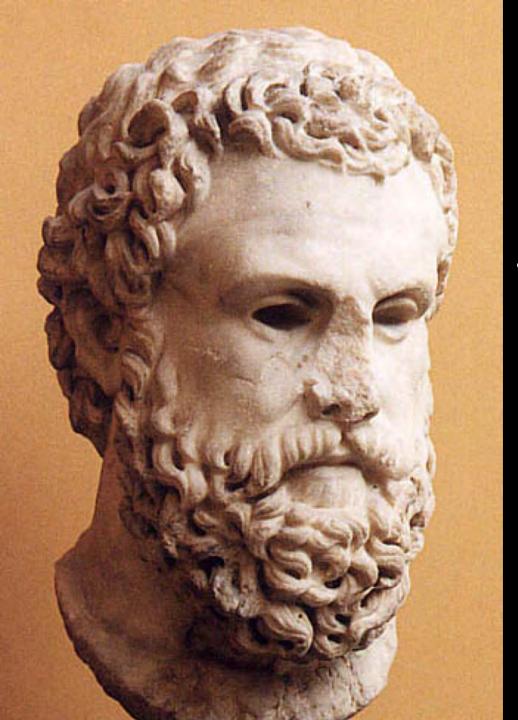
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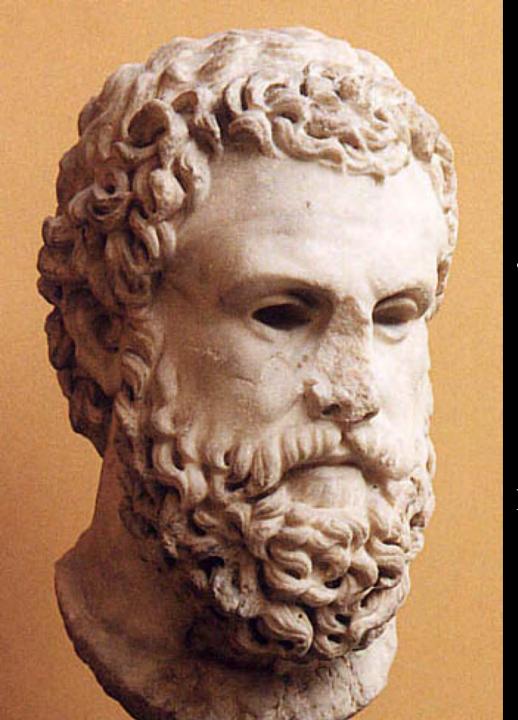


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- Others say anything enjoyable is sin, so they abstain from all things pleasurable, even marital sex
 - Big debates about how to be involved with their pagan religious background

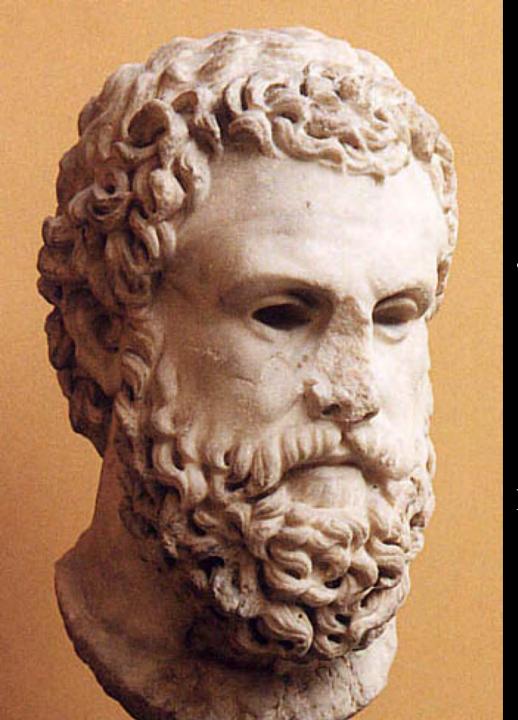


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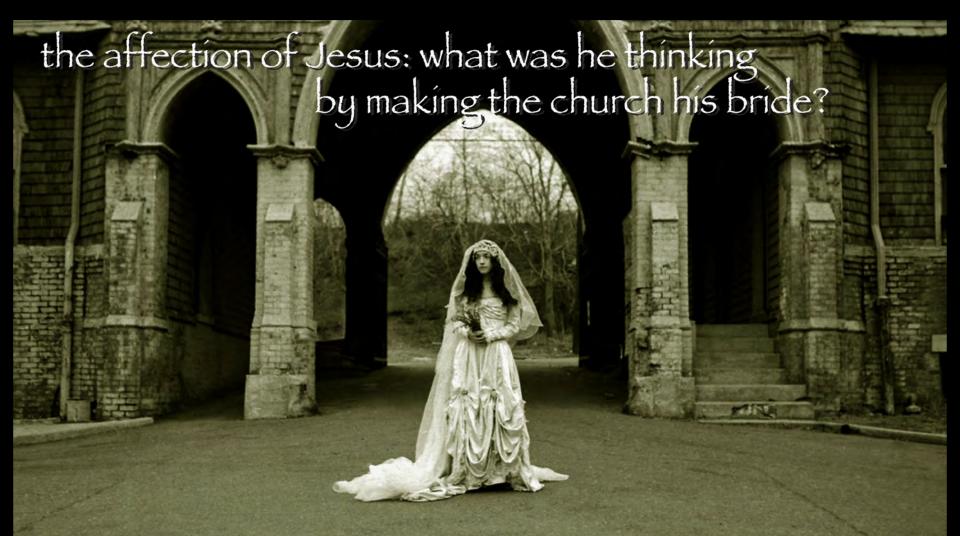
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- The Spiritual Gifts of God are present, but it is charismania and absolute bedlam in their meetings
 - Some people in the church do not actually believe that Jesus rose bodily from the dead.



A FOUR WEEK MESSAGE SERIES ON THE CHURCH

January 25th - February 15th, 2009

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photo by Jim Blackie (cc - creative commons use)

Welcome to the Church in Corinth:



Welcome to the Church in Corinth:

The Bridezilla of Christ!

What I would have done if I was Paul...



Paul's opening remarks to the church in Corinth

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²To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

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How Paul deals with all of this... Let 'em have it, Paul!!

1 Corinthians 1:4-9

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How could Paul possibly be thankful for this motley crew?

1. The Grace of Jesus was on them

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2. They were now rich

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3. Gospel Transformation was evident

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4. Jesus' Spirit was coursing through their veins

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5. Their growth, perseverance and behavioral changes were in God's hands

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Are you willing to love on the very least people, even people you struggle to like?

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