

# Work Worth Doing

## 1 Corinthians 15:58-16:24

Paul has just been talking about the reality of resurrection. There's more to life than just "this life" - as demonstrated by Jesus. And that changes our perspective on everything! Once you're convinced about the resurrection of Jesus, your priorities and plans will be very different... or should be!

1. What does the "therefore" refer to in 1 Corinthians 15: 58?
2. Can you remember Paul's conclusions in chapter 15 if there is no resurrection?

Paul says the idea that **there's no resurrection** is illogical based especially on the fact that they BELIEVE that Jesus was raised from the dead. And more than that if there is no resurrection then both his life and theirs are futile. They have believed "**in vain**." What's the point in giving up the "dream life" with a dream house and a dream health, a fast donkey and having fun if there is no resurrection? But Paul says there IS a resurrection... which means they should **stand firm** and **let nothing move them**.

3. What do you think Paul means by "standing firm"? How does 16:13 amplify this?
4. What should they devote their lives to if they don't want to waste their time on futile things?

What does "the work of the Lord" look like? What do you think he means?

Read **2 Corinthians 16:1-18**. Look for other references to "the work of the Lord" as you read.

Remember, Paul didn't write in chapters. This is a letter read out to the congregation. And Paul moves straight on from telling them about the hope of the resurrection and that they should give themselves fully to the work of the Lord, to the collection for God's people. Here's the first way they can be involved in the WORK OF THE LORD.

5. Who are the recipients of the collection?
6. What are Paul's motives in wanting the Gentiles to give to the Jewish churches?
7. What can we learn about...
  - a) how much to give
  - b) how much fuss to make about giving
8. In what way is your giving part of "doing the work of the Lord"?



9. Looking through chapter 16, list the other people involved in doing the WORK OF THE LORD, and their role.

Person	Role

10. How are the Corinthians to treat Timothy?(vv10,11) (How does this involve **them** in the work?)

11. Why do you think the house of Stephanus gets a special mention here?

12. What does it mean to “submit to such as these?” (What other model of leadership were the Corinthians attracted to - recalling chapters 1 and 2?)

13. How does verse 14 link this chapter with chapters 12, 13 and 14?

14. “Such men deserve recognition” (v18) is more literally “such men are “worth getting to know.” Why would Paul say this?

15. Flip through the pages of 1 Corinthians as a reminder of what we’ve seen. Paul has been concerned about their behaviour right from the start of the letter. What are some of the key issues he has raised?

How would you summarise their attitude and behaviour?

How have you personally been challenged to change your attitudes and behaviour?

Are there ways you can more fully “give yourself to the work of the Lord?”