

LESSON 13

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1–24



1 Who has made a significant difference in your life?

2 What did this person do that made such a difference?



Read 1 Corinthians 16:1–24 and the following notes:

☐ 16:1–4 ☐ 16:13, 14 ☐ 16:19 ☐ 16:22 ☐ 16:24

3 According to this chapter, how were people involved in Paul's ministry or in ministry in general?

4 What do Paul's personal requests reveal about him (16:5–11)?

Paul seldom ministered alone. In all of his travels and missionary ventures, he was in the company of trusted and valued friends. Some of his lowest times came when he was isolated. In spite of Paul's great gifts and calling, he recognized his need for fellowship and support. He depended on others for help and encouragement. These supportive people were his partners in ministry. God calls all of us as Christians to be involved in ministry. We are partners together with Christ and other believers. How incredible to realize that God calls us to partnership in the building of his Kingdom!



5 What are the benefits of being involved with other people in ministry?

6 What consequences might there be for people who minister by themselves?

7 What are some of the unique needs of ministry leaders?



8 In what ministries do you have a support role?

9 In what ministries do you have a leadership role?

10 Who has been a part of a “life-support system” for you in your Christian life?

11 How can the people of your church encourage and support those involved in leadership?



12 What leaders in your church can you encourage or support—a pastor, a small group leader, elders, deacons, church school teachers, or others?

13 Choose at least one person from the above list and write down how you will encourage him or her this week.

- A** What do Paul's instructions to the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 16:1–3 suggest about how Christians should give? What can you do to support God's work with your money?
- B** What do you learn about Paul's ministry from 1 Corinthians 16:5–9? Paul said that there was "a wide-open door for a great work" in Ephesus for him (16:9). What factors may have led him to conclude this? How might opposition affect your ministry for Christ?
- C** How did Paul end this difficult letter to the church at Corinth (16:19–24)? What can this teach us about confronting others with problems?
- D** Paul longed for the Lord's return (16:22). How did this affect his ministry? What effect does the promise of Christ's return have on your life?

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