

*By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NIV)*

## **Testing Your Work**

**One day your life's work will be tested. I will examine how you have spent the life that you have been given to live. We will have the opportunity to see the fruit that you have born for my kingdom and the glory that you have brought to my name.** I'm looking forward to that day. **You seem quite confident.** Yes, I am very confident. My confidence is in you. If my confidence were in myself I would have absolutely none. **Tell me more about your confidence in me.** You are the foundation of my life. All that I think and say and do is founded on you. I want to think your thoughts. I want to speak your words. I want to do your deeds. In everyway I want you to be guided by you. I know that you will use my life according to your purpose and plans as I follow you. I can't go wrong if I go where you lead me and do all that you ask of me. So, I am listening attentively to you. I don't want to miss out on one word that you have to say to me. I am following you closely. I don't want to run ahead or lag behind you. If I keep in step with you I will certainly know and do your will **Yes, that's right.** That's why I can say that I have confidence in you.

There is more that I want to say on this subject. **Go ahead, I'm listening.** I don't have a mild desire to know you and do your will. My heart aches within me to know you and do your will. I have no other desire in my life that comes remotely close to wanting to know you and do your will. Nothing gives me more joy than to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. It is my constant prayer that you will use me according to your purposes and plans. I want to do everything that you have prepared for me to do for you. If I do lag behind, if I do run ahead, I asking that you will help me to get to exactly where you want me to be to do exactly what you want me to do for you. When we look back over my life I want to be surprised by the joy that we can share together. I don't want to regret something that I left undone. So, it is my prayer that you will fully use me. **Do you believe that I will hear and answer this prayer of yours?** Yes Lord, I believe with certainty that you will fully use me so that I can bear an abundance of fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. **Yes, I will hear and answer this prayer of yours.**

*Lord, you are the foundation of my life. I will follow, obey and serve you. I will go where you guide me. I will do all that you ask of me.*

*Make my life's work able to stand the test of time and bear abundant fruit for all eternity for your kingdom and glory. Amen*

**If** *Any Man Builds*

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

NIV 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Anyone Who Builds*

Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value. If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.

NLT 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Anyone Builds*

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire.

NRSV 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Any Man Builds*

According to the grace (the special endowment for my task) of God bestowed on me, like a skillful architect and master builder I laid [the] foundation, and now another [man] is building upon it. But let each [man] be careful how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is [already] laid, which is Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). But if anyone builds upon the Foundation, whether it be with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, The work of each [one] will become [plainly, openly] known (shown for what it is); for the day [of Christ] will disclose and declare it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test and critically appraise the character and worth of the work each person has done. If the work which any person has built on this Foundation [any product of his efforts whatever] survives [this test], he will get his reward. But if any person's work is burned up [under the test], he will suffer the loss [of it all, losing his reward], though he himself will be saved, but only as [one who has passed] through fire.

AMP 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Any Man Builds*

According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

NASB 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Anyone Builds*

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

ESV 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Anyone Builds*

According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

NKJV 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Take Particular Care*

Using the gift God gave me as a good architect, I designed blueprints; Apollos is putting up the walls. Let each carpenter who comes on the job take care to build on the foundation! Remember, there is only one foundation, the one already laid: Jesus Christ. Take particular care in picking out your building materials. Eventually there is going to be an inspection. If you use cheap or inferior materials, you'll be found out. The inspection will be thorough and rigorous. You won't get by with a thing. If your work passes inspection, fine; if it doesn't, your part of the building will be torn out and started over. But you won't be torn out; you'll survive—but just barely.

MSG 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *Every Workman*

God, in his kindness, has taught me how to be an expert builder. I have laid the foundation and Apollos has built on it. But he who builds on the foundation must be very careful. And no one can ever lay any other real foundation than that one we already have—Jesus Christ. But there are various kinds of materials that can be used to build on that foundation. Some use gold and silver and jewels; and some build with sticks and hay or even straw! There is going to come a time of testing at Christ's Judgment Day to see what kind of material each builder has used. Everyone's work will be put through the fire so that all can see whether or not it keeps its value, and what was really accomplished. Then every workman who has built on the foundation with the right materials, and whose work still stands, will get his pay. But if the house he has built burns up, he will have a great loss. He himself will be saved, but like a man escaping through a wall of flames.

TLB 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**If** *People Build*

Using the gift God gave me, I laid the foundation of that house like an expert builder. Others are building on that foundation, but all people should be careful how they build on it. The foundation that has already been laid is Jesus Christ, and no one can lay down any other foundation. But if people build on that foundation, using gold, silver, jewels, wood, grass, or straw, their work will be clearly seen, because the Day of Judgment will make it visible. That Day will appear with fire, and the fire will test everyone's work to show what sort of work it was. If the building that has been put on the foundation still stands, the builder will get a reward. But if the building is burned up, the builder will suffer loss. The builder will be saved, but it will be as one who escaped from a fire.

NCV 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

# Any Man Builds

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If – 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**In Context:** Read 1 Corinthians 3

**Begin With Prayer:**

**Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.**

**Meditating On God's Word:** *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**Considering The Words:** *(What words speak to your heart?)*

By | the grace | God | has given me, | I laid | a foundation | as | an expert | builder, | and | someone else | is building | on it. | But | each one | should | be careful | how | he builds. | For | no one | can lay | any foundation | other than | the one | already laid, | which is | Jesus Christ. | If | any man | builds | on | this foundation | using gold, | silver, | costly stones, | wood, | hay | or | straw, | his work | will be | shown for | what it is, | because | the Day | will bring | it to | light. | It will be | revealed | with fire, | and | the fire | will test | the quality | of | each man's | work. | If what | he has | built | survives, | he will | receive | his reward. | If it | is burned up, | he will | suffer loss; | he himself | will be | saved, | but only | as one | escaping through | the flames. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**Praying The Scripture:** *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Lord, you are the foundation of my life. I will follow, obey and serve you. I will go where you guide me. I will do all that you ask of me. Make my life's work able to stand the test of time and bear abundant fruit for all eternity for your kingdom and glory. Amen

**What It Means:** *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

How is your life and work founded on and being directed by Jesus Christ on a daily basis?

How has God's word become a sure foundation on which your life and work is being built?

**When have you done something because the Lord has asked you to do it for Him?**

When have you decided not to do something because the Lord was not asking you to do it for Him?

**What harm is there in doing work that the Lord has not asked you to do for Him?**

**What of your life's work will stand the test of time and bear fruit for all eternity?**

What fruitful work do you believe the Lord is asking you to do for Him?

**Living It Out:** *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Allow your life and work to be founded on Jesus Christ as you follow and obey and serve Him.

**Seeing It Happen:** *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that the Lord will ask you to do work for Him that will stand the test of time and bear fruit for all eternity.

**Get Ready To Share:** *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group about the fruitful work that the Lord has asked you to do for Him.

**Close With Prayer:**

**Quiet Yourself Before The Lord**

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May your life's work be built on Jesus Christ and continue to directed by Him.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will allow my life's work to be founded on and directed by you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can my life's work be founded on and directed by you today?*

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