COMPASS BIBLE CHURCH



Pastor PJ Berner • November 8, 2026

1 Corinthians 3:5-9 | Why You're Not the Main Character (And That's Okay)

Scripture Memory

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. –1 Corinthians 3:6-7

Community Group Discussion Questions

Community Groups meet throughout the week and play a crucial role in our response to the preaching of the word. These groups gather to discuss the following questions as we seek to apply the sermon in community with one another. Please visit compassntx.org to join a small group near you.

1. Read **1 Corinthians 3:5** and **2 Corinthians 5:20**. What are some qualities of a faithful servant or ambassador? What would cause someone to be a poor servant or ambassador? How does that relate to your role in the church and how you are serving the Lord?

2. Read **1 Corinthians 3:7**. If it is true that only God gives the growth, why should a Christian or church still care about the presentation of the message or even the programming that is offered? What responsibilities do we have to serve faithfully and effectively while recognizing that only God can produce spiritual growth?

3. Read **1 Corinthians 3:7** and **James 1:21–22**. If God is the one who produces spiritual growth, how should that shape your expectations when you gather to hear his Word? What changes could you make to prepare your heart to receive and respond to Scripture?

4. Read **1 Corinthians 3:8–9**. When you think about hearing "Well done good and faithful servant," how should the prospect of that future evaluation and reward shape the way you serve today? What are some obstacles that you might have to overcome in your own heart to maintain that perspective for the long-haul?

Recommended Reading

Here are some books that may help you with a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While we cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, we do believe these resources will be profitable for thinking through today's topic.

- *Slave* — John MacArthur
- *The Trellis and the Vine* — Colin Marshall and Tony Payne
- *The Gospel Comes with a House Key* — Rosaria Butterfield