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Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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A Blueprint for Life

1 Corinthians 3:1-23

Series: Following Jesus in the Real World

Central Passage

1 Corinthians 3:9–17 (ESV) — **9** For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. **10** 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. **11** For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. **12** Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— **13** 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. **14** If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. **15** If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. **16** Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? **17** If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Central Thought: As the Church, we are being built into the Temple of God – the people with whom his Spirit dwells and through whom is salvation in Christ Jesus is declared in word and deed.

The Blueprint of the Church

❖ God is the architect of the Church

Genesis 12:1–3 (ESV) — **1** Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **2** And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

❖ Jesus is the foundation and the builder of the Church

1 Peter 2:4–5 (ESV) — **4** As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, **5** you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

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❖ The Spirit is the Power of the Church

Acts 1:8 (ESV) — **8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Conclusion

❖ As fellow workers with Christ and each other, we must build with humility and excellence.