

# SERMON OUTLINE

3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sunday Morning 12/23/07

## *“Investing in People”*

### **I. Topic to be Discussed**

- A. The greatest investment opportunity in life is investing in people
- B. Let's look at this topic from 1 Corinthians 3

### **II. The Attitude of the Investor**

- A. Thinking Like a Servant
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 3:4-7 We are nothing
  - 2. The challenge of investing: Planning for the future: Eccl 11:6
  - 3. SERVANTS putting in just a little bit
- B. Trusting in the Power of God
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 God causes the growth
  - 2. Fear hinders our working – what if it doesn't do any good?
  - 3. Proverbs 11:24-26 - Give and God will take care of you!!!
- C. Realize Others Have Invested in Us
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 3:8-10 Many workers - WE invested in YOU
  - 2. Who has invested in YOU? Family members, friends, church members, passing comment... everyday help.
- D. Be Prepared to Work: Planting and Watering
  - 1. 1 Cor 3:6,8,9,10 Planting, watering, building... hard work
  - 2. What does it mean to invest in people?
  - 3. Why do this??? LOVE - 1 Corinthians 13

### **III. The Reward - Paul's picture of a building & builder: 1 Cor 3:11-15**

- A. Connecting People to Jesus
  - 1. 1 Cor 3:11 The foundation - NOT Paul, Apollos, but Jesus
  - 2. 1 Thess 2:5-8 – Not about US but YOUR connection to Jesus
- B. Preparing Others for Satan's Onslaught (Fire)
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 People will be tested
  - 2. Not every investment will turn out – Ecclesiastes 11:2 - But We can help prepare people - give them the tools to win
- C. God's Kingdom Established
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 God's temple built - It's HIS work
- D. Builds Up Future Generations
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 YOU are God's temple - PEOPLE
  - 2. What are we doing here? Helping others have God live in them

### **IV. Conclusion**

- A. Realize the wonderful OPPORTUNITY we have – PEOPLE
- B. Think of people in your life – INVEST in them.