

**Is it Worth It?**  
Core Group Discussion Guide  
01-28-2018

**Message Overview:**

This is the final message in our Beautiful Mess series through I Corinthians. The letter of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians gives the church all kinds of instruction toward becoming a healthy congregation. Most of the letter isn't so much about proper doctrine as it is about how we function together: serving each other, loving each other, and worshipping together. The last verse of chapter 15 is our focus for this week and it is a fitting conclusion to the series, reminding us that our efforts of love and service toward each other are not in vain. And so this week we will look at reasons we are tempted to believe loving, serving, and committing to each other are futile and why we are tempted to give up on church. My hope is that this message serves as an inspiration to continue to invest and love each other in spite of how we sometimes feel.

**Text:**

- I Corinthians 15, with a focus on vs 58.
- Romans 5:2-5

**Questions for Discussion:**

1. (Questions to ensure understanding)
  - a. What were the reasons given that we sometimes lose faith in the church?
  - b. What were some of the habits of people who persevere in the faith?
2. Would you add other reasons for losing faith in the concept of the church?
3. Which reason resonated with you most?
4. How would you help a disillusioned person overcome these doubts and frustrations?

Questions about the study through I Corinthians

1. How does the fact that the church has always been messy and difficult affect your perspective toward churches today?
2. One of the most powerful things we can do to change our lives is look for one thing we are capable of improving in our environment. If we apply this principle to each of us at MCA, what is one thing you see that you can make better at MCA? (if you are comfortable sharing)