



Good Personal Investment Advice for Your Life (Invest in Your Growth), Part 2

Date: May 16, 2021

Text: I Corinthians 3:1-15

Big Question: What are you investing in?

Big Thought: What we invest in will grow and develop our future.

I. Paul's Investment Advice to the Corinthians

1. Invest in maturing (They were worldly and childish)

- 1 Corinthians 3:1–23 (NIV): Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ.

2. Invest in people who tell you the truth (They could not handle mature conversation)

- 2 I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

3. Invest in your growth not personalities (They were too celebrity focused)

- 3 You are still worldly. For since there is **jealousy** and **quarreling** among you, are you not worldly? **Are you not acting like mere humans?** 4 For when one says, "**I follow Paul,**" and another, "**I follow Apollos,**" are you not mere human beings? 5 **What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul?** Only **servants**, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

II. Four Things to Remember When Investing

1. Remember who grows things (We often take too much credit)

- 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only **God, who makes things grow.**

2. Remember your planting and watering purpose (Stay within your job description)

- 8 **The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose**, and they will each be **rewarded according to their own labor.** 9 For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

3. Remember to build carefully

- 10 By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. **But each one should build with care.** 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

4. Remember to build with good materials (gold, silver, and costly stones)

- 12 If anyone builds on this foundation using **gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw,** 13 their 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 person's work.** 14 If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. 15 If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

Conclusion:

**III. Wise Investments I Have
Learned to Make**

1. Time for myself (How much time do you spend with you?)
2. Reserves for myself (Can you save you? Eccl. 7:12, Money is a shelter or defense)
3. Friends I can depend on (Who are your real friends?)
4. Knowledge I can draw from (How much time do you spend learning?)
5. Activities that build the whole me (How is what you are doing helping you?)

Next Time: It's a Myth Don't Believe in It
Read Ahead: Ecclesiastes 3