



# IBC Church San José

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Overview Study of the Apostle  
Wednesday evenings,  
6:30-8:00 pm  
Twelve Week Study  
Led by Dr. Lorin L Cranford

## The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

**W**ho was Paul of Tarsus? A Jewish Pharisee converted to Christ, who became the greatest Christian to ever serve Christ. His courageous ministry brought non-Jews in Christianity and changed it forever. He is the most prolific writer in the New Testament with almost half the 27 documents attributed to him. His religious thought became the foundation for the Protestant Reformation.

**H**e was a controversial figure in early Christianity, and remains so even today. His words continue to challenge and provoke Christians to both think and reflect.

**W**ords from him in his letters still fascinate the brightest minds of our day with both their simplicity and profundity at the same time. Literally thousands of books have been written about him in an ongoing effort to grasp his thought.

**O**ur study will seek to touch on the various aspects of his contribution to Christianity by looking at him as a person, a missionary, and a writer.

**C**ome to the study and learn how this great man was used by God to shape the Christian faith for all time.

You Are Invited to this Study,  
starting on Wednesday, October 5.

- **Paul the person:** What kind of a person was he? What was his background? How did he come to Christ? What was his calling from God?
- **Paul the missionary:** How did God prepare him to be a missionary? Where did he preach the gospel? What was his missionary strategy? How did he finance his work?
- **Paul the writer:** How did Paul compose his letters? Why are they arranged the way they are listed in the New Testament? When did Paul produce his letters? Why? How do we make sense of them?
- The objective of the study is to create a greater awareness of the contribution of this apostle to our Christian faith. A survey of his letters and relevant parts of the Acts of the Apostles will be covered. A brief exposure to the Church Fathers and their perspectives on Paul will be included.
- Attention to current trends in Pauline scholarship will be given.
- Recommended bibliography on studying Paul will be included as part of the study guide.