



Session 11: Controversies Among the Corinthians

READ:

1 Corinthians 5–7; 15; 2 Corinthians 5–7; 12:11-21; 13

CONNECT: Childhood Beliefs

What is something you believed when you were a child that you later found out was not true?

WATCH: Controversies Among the Corinthians

As you watch the video, fill in the following:

A. Rival Factions

What did Paul, Apollos, Peter, and Jesus all serve together to do?

B. Lawsuits

What did Paul say is preferable than to have a lawsuit with another Christian?

C. The Poor

How were the poor treated during the Lord's Supper in the Corinthian church?

D. Sexual Misconduct

What were the two extremes on the view of sexuality?

E. Associations

What did Paul advise about relationships with unbelievers?

What did Paul advise about relationships with flagrant sinners who claim to be believers?

F. Responses to Letter

List some of the “the matters about which [the Corinthians] wrote” (1 Cor. 7:1) to Paul:

“In both of Paul’s letters to the Corinthians, Paul _____ a number of _____ that had made their way into the Corinthian church.”

DISCUSS

- What is something you learned from the video?

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:7.
 - What do you think Paul meant when he said that to have a lawsuit with another Christian is already a defeat?

 - If someone were trying to convince you that it is better to be wronged than to take a believer to court, which of Jesus' words in Matthew 5:2-11 would be most convincing to you?

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:13-20.
 - What do you think Paul meant when he said, “Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body” (v.18b)?

 - What can you do to flee from sexual immorality?

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 and Revelation 22:14-15.
 - Pray together as a group that God’s Spirit would free people in your circle of influence from deceptions about the eternal results of their sins.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART: An Eternal Perspective

Summarize Paul's teaching in each of the following passages to see the eternal perspective that puts our life here in a proper perspective.

- 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
- 2 Corinthians 5:9; 7:1
- 2 Corinthians 5:10
- 2 Corinthians 5:16-17
- 2 Corinthians 5:1

APPLY:

- “Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves”(2 Corinthians 13:5) Think through each of the following aspects of 1 Corinthians 6:9-10:

Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor [those] who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

Now consider v. 11:

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

- How has God washed, sanctified and justified you?
- Where has this study encouraged you in your faith?
- Where has it challenged you? What do you want to do as a result?