



**The Week of January 31, 2021**

**Title**

**1 Corinthians 5:1-6:11**

**Conversation Guide**

### **This Week's Take-Aways**

- **Peace:** (Philippians 4:4-7) **I enjoy peace with God as I become more confident in God's grace and experience His presence in my life.** I enjoy peace with others as engage in biblically healthy relationships with them. I seek to deal rightly with those who have wronged or offended me as I pursue peace with them.
- **Goodness:** (Galatians 6:9-10) **I will seek to do good to others even at great cost to myself.**
- **Self-Control:** (Ephesians 4:22-24) **My thoughts, emotions and actions are brought under control through the power of the Spirit as I pursue a holy, God-honoring life.**

### **Intro Questions**

- What has been your biggest takeaway from the Change of Heart sermon series so far?
- Check out this video for a great overview of 1 Corinthians! <https://youtu.be/yiHf8klCCc4>
  - You can find this video and tons more to help you dive into God's word on RightNow Media- totally free for Celebration! Have you set up a RightNow Media account? Click here to set up a free account- [bit.ly/GetRightNowMedia](http://bit.ly/GetRightNowMedia)
- What did Pastor David mean when he said "The Gospel is our guide?"

## Trouble in the Church

- Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-2

*It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and the kind of sexual immorality that is not even tolerated among the Gentiles – a man is sleeping with his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Shouldn't you be filled with grief and remove from your congregation the one who did this?*

- What did Paul find so unbelievable about the Corinthian conduct?
- What was the Corinthians attitude toward what was happening?
- Are there times when you've had the same attitude?
- Can you imagine the kind of carnage this behavior would unleash on a family?
- Pastor David said "Sin never leaves you unaffected." How does sin affect the individual? What about those around them?
- What about the long-term effects of sin? What kind of baggage can it leave you with?

- Read 1 Corinthians 5:2-5

*And you are arrogant! Shouldn't you be filled with grief and remove from your congregation the one who did this? Even though I am absent in the body, I am present in spirit. As one who is present with you in this way, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who has been doing such a thing. When you are assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus, and I am with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, hand that one over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.*

- What does it mean to put them out of the church? (check out the Sermon Recap video if you can't remember)
- What is the motive and goal of putting them out of the church?

- Read 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

*If anyone has caused pain, he has caused pain not so much to me but to some degree – not to exaggerate – to all of you. This punishment by the majority is sufficient for that person. As a result, you should instead forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, he may be overwhelmed by excessive grief. Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. I wrote for this purpose: to test your character to see if you are obedient in everything. Anyone you forgive, I do too. For what I have forgiven – if I have forgiven anything – it is for your benefit in the presence of Christ, so that we may not be taken advantage of by Satan. For we are not ignorant of his schemes.*

- Discipline of this sort doesn't always work out. But how did this man's story turn out?

- Read 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

*Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little leaven leavens the whole batch of dough? Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new unleavened batch, as indeed you are. For Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us observe the feast, not with old leaven or with the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

- We've talked about how sin affects the sinner and those immediately around them. How does it affect the church they are part of?
- What does it tell the world when the church can't get it's own house in order?
- What happens when their moral authority?
- Why is it impossible to truly worship God when you're not willing to obey Him?

- Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

*I wrote to you in a letter not to associate with sexually immoral people. I did not mean the immoral people of this world or the greedy and swindlers or idolaters; otherwise you would have to leave the world. But actually, I wrote you not to associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister and is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or verbally abusive, a drunkard or a swindler. Do not even eat with such a person. For what business is it of mine to judge outsiders? Don't you judge those who are inside? God judges outsiders. Remove the evil person from among you.*

- Name the three principles Paul give us regarding judging others.
  - Believers are not to judge \_\_\_\_\_.
  - God will judge \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Believers are to judge \_\_\_\_\_.
- Pastor David said, "Normal relationships with those who are arrogantly involved in sin are impossible with the church." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- An unnamed preacher once said "Judge the believin', not the heathen." Is that a true statement?

- Read Galatians 6:1

*Brothers and sisters, if someone is overtaken in any wrongdoing, you who are spiritual, restore such a person with a gentle spirit, watching out for yourselves so that you also won't be tempted.*

- Pastor David said "The beauty of the church is preserved by mutual accountability and responsibility. Those who are tripped up by sin are to be restored by others in the community who are walking in the Spirit.
  - Can you share a time in your life that someone helped restore you?
  - Have you had the joy of helping someone get back on the right track?

## Tort Reform in the Church?

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

*If any of you has a dispute against another, how dare you take it to court before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? Or don't you know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the trivial cases? Don't you know that we will judge angels – how much more matters of this life? So if you have such matters, do you appoint as your judges those who have no standing in the church? I say this to your shame! Can it be that there is not one wise person among you who is able to arbitrate between fellow believers? Instead, brother goes to court against brother, and that before unbelievers!*

*As it is, to have legal disputes against one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? Instead, you yourselves do wrong and cheat – and you do this to brothers and sisters!*

- How could this be damaging to the reputation of the church and cause division?
  - What would be the advantage of taking your dispute before other believers that have prayerfully and Biblically discerned what is right?
  - Why would believers take their dispute before the court when they should be on the same team and have the same goal?
  - Paul says that it would be better to take the loss than take a fellow believer to court. How do you feel about that?
    - What does the Bible say about it?
- Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

*Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or males who have sex with males, no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom. And some of you used to be like this. 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.*

- It's a common saying that Jesus loves us just as we are. Is He content to leave us as we are? What does this passage say?
- To paraphrase Paul, "God takes sin seriously. He always has, He always will. So why are you acting like people who don't know the gospel? What are you living like a lost person?"
  - Being born again gives us a new nature and puts us at odds with our old nature. How have you seen this in your faith?
  - How has the Holy Spirit reminded you of who you are in Christ and drawn you away from sin?
- Our expectations for ourselves should be different than the expectations people outside of the church have for themselves. Why?
- How should we react to people outside of the church who are living sinful lives?

- Read 2 Corinthians 2:5-11 again

*If anyone has caused pain, he has caused pain not so much to me but to some degree – not to exaggerate – to all of you. This punishment by the majority is sufficient for that person. As a result, you should instead forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, he may be overwhelmed by excessive grief. Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. I wrote for this purpose: to test your character to see if you are obedient in everything. Anyone you forgive, I do too. For what I have forgiven – if I have forgiven anything – it is for your benefit in the presence of Christ, so that we may not be taken advantage of by Satan. For we are not ignorant of his schemes.*

- How well did the Corinthian church handle the situation with the man caught in an immoral relationship?