

Change of Heart

1st Corinthians

The Week of February 7, 2021
1 Corinthians 5:1-6:11
Conversation Guide

This Week's Take-Aways

- **About God's Design for Marriage and Family: (Ephesians 5:22-6:4)** I believe marriage and family are gifts from God and serve as a picture of Christ's relationship with the church. Family is the first environment where I am able to demonstrate my love for God by the way I love others.





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Intro

- Do you have a bumper sticker on your car (or have you in the past)? On your laptop? Water bottle?
- What are some “Christian Catch Phrases” you’ve heard people try to live their lives by? Here are a few favorites we found at BibleStudyTools.com:
 - “God helps those who help themselves.”
 - “This, too, shall pass.”
 - “Yea, verily, God wants you to be happy.”
 - “If you work hard enough, you’ll be successful.”
 - “Just follow your heart and believe, and you can do anything.”

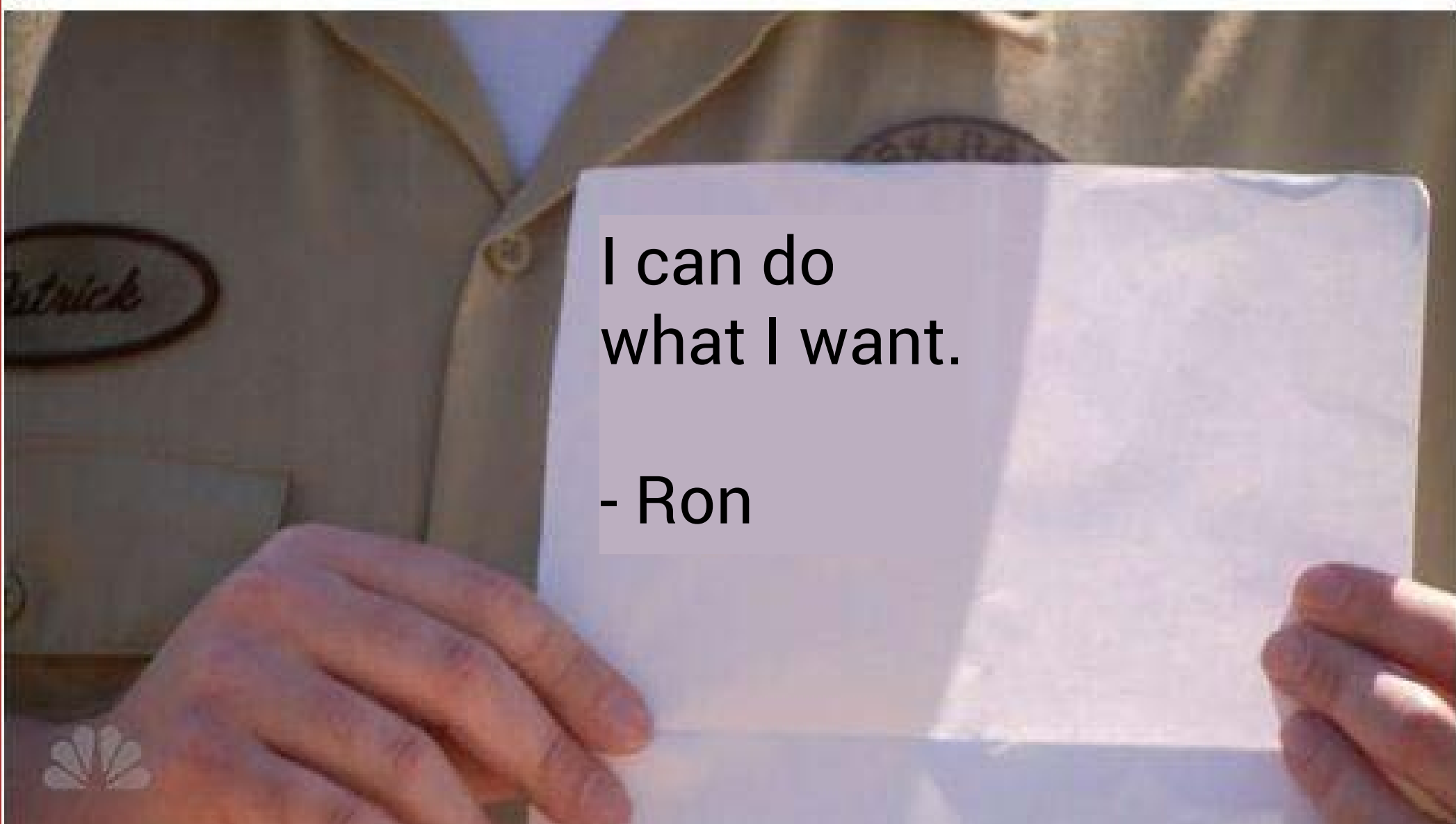




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Everything is Permissible?



- Read 1 Corinthians 6:12

You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. And even though “I am allowed to do anything,” I must not become a slave to anything.





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- What are some things we see today that might be “legal” but not beneficial for us?
- Who or what should our behavior be “beneficial” to?
- Read 1 Corinthians 10:33

Just as I also try to please everyone in everything, not seeking my own benefit, but the benefit of many, so that they may be saved.
- How can our behavior and choices affect our families, churches, our witness, etc?
- What are some non-physical things that can be our master and be un-beneficial?
- How can having Jesus as your Lord change your attitudes and behaviors?





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Food Is For The Stomach?

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:13-17

“Food is for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will do away with both of them. However, the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Don’t you know that your bodies are a part of Christ’s body? So should I take a part of Christ’s body and make it part of a prostitute? Absolutely not! Don’t you know that anyone joined to a prostitute is one body with her? For Scripture says, The two will become one flesh. But anyone joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.





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- How does Paul go from “Food is for the stomach and stomach for food” to sexual promiscuity?
- These are two of the desires we may have. What are some others that we need to keep in check?
- What did Pastor David say the biblical sexual ethic is?
 - What is the result of violating that principle? To you? To your partner? To the body of Christ?
- How is your authenticity discredited when you claim to be one person spiritually but behavior differently physically?





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- Read James 1:14-15

But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.

- When do our appetites and desires become sinful?
- Our appetites and desires can lead to a slippery slope. Where does that end up?
- It's Super Bowl time and advertisers are pushing hard for you to fulfill your desires in a way that profitable for them. How can we as believers guard ourselves?
- Pastor David said in his message, "You can't commit a sin in the body that doesn't damage your soul." How does that ring true in real life?





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- Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-19

Flee sexual immorality! Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the person who is sexually immoral sins against his own body. Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

- What is Paul's advice when we encounter sexual temptation?
- How should a temple be treated?
- Who does your body belong to?
- Today we often hear the phrase "My Body, My Choice." Does this phrase fit with this passage? How are they opposed?





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- Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and try to memorize it this week:

No temptation has come upon you except what is common to humanity. But God is faithful; he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to bear it.





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Action Steps

- We live in a sound-byte world. What are the sound-bytes in your head that you need to replace?
- Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For although we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh, since the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments and every proud thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ.
- According to this passage, how do we replace these sound-bytes?





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- Pastor David sad that we need to surrender ourselves to Christ everyday. How do we do that? Praying through the Armor of God is a great way!

- Read Ephesians 6:10-18

Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by his vast strength. Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens. For this reason take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand. Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist,





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righteousness like armor on your chest, and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace. In every situation take up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit — which is the word of God. Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.





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- Read this passage from Pastor David's message:

"I'm bought with a price. The blood of Jesus Christ. And he has a wonderful purpose for me. I'm not just here for self gratification. I'm not just here for physical pleasure. There's more to me than that. God has a future for me and it's bright and beautiful. I have a function in the body of Christ that's mission critical. I have an eternity in Christ to look forward to. So I'm not going to squander all of that or jeopardize that or throw it all away. I'm going to live for Christ because I belong to him and that is how I'm going to base my decisions about what I do with my body."





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- What are the things that are pulling you away from God's design for sex? How can you set up guardrails to protect yourself (and your marriage, if applicable)?
- Pray this week about God's purpose for you in this physical body.

