



**1 Corinthians 6:1-8**

**1** When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints? **2** Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? **3** Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! **4** So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? **5** I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, **6** but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? **7** To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? **8** But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

*Why doesn't Paul want the church to take their grievances to the courts? Do you ever hear of court cases involving people within the church? What can result from contentious court cases?*

*What is the witness to the world when the church defrauds one another (v 8)?*

*Who should be able to judge matters within the church? What is ours to judge in the future?*

**1 Corinthians 6:9-12**

**9** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, **10** nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **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. **12** "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything.

*Do you think you'd have a hard time being in a church with those who were once described by the terms of verse 10, even though that was something in the past and now they are washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of Jesus? Why?*

*The freedom of Christ is being interpreted in this church to mean "all things are lawful for me." How does Paul respond to this without returning to legalism? How is freedom understood and limited?*

### **1 Corinthians 6:13-20**

**13** "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. **14** And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. **15** Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! **16** Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." **17** But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. **18** Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. **19** Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, **20** for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

*When you think of your body as a member of Christ, does that change the way you view sin in your own life?*

*We are warned not to join our bodies in sexual sin to a prostitute. Instead we should be joined to whom and for what purpose?*

*What does it mean to be a temple of the Holy Spirit? What happens at the temple? How can what used to be the practices of a temple be practices of our own life?*

*What is the price that has been paid for us? Read and discuss **Hebrews 9:11-14**.*

### **Ephesians 4:25-32**

**25** Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. **26** Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, **27** and give no opportunity to the devil. **28** Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. **29** Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **32** Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

*Similarly to 1 Corinthians 5-6, Paul in Ephesians 4 is instructing the church in how we should now act as a people renewed by God. What guidelines does he give for speech within the body of Christ?*

*How can you apply these Scriptures to your life?*