



“Letters to the Corinthians” Study Notes

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Lesson 11: You Are NOT Your Own

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Read Galatians 5:16-24. If we truly are walking by the Spirit, what will we no longer do? How does Paul explain how the desires of the flesh and the desires of the Spirit interact? What does Paul say is obvious or evident? What warning does Paul give in verse 21? What things have no law against them? If we truly belong to Christ, what have we done?

Think about this passage a moment. The acts of the sinful nature are NOT SUBTLE. They are obvious. If we truly are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we will not be able to continue doing those things because God's Spirit lives in us, convicting us of the sin we are committing! Do not fool yourself and think that, for you, it's okay if you engage in these activities. God's Word is VERY clear: those who live like this? Those whose lives are filled with these activities and there is no true repentance for these sins? Will not inherit the kingdom of God. Period.

Read Ephesians 5:3-5. What warning is given in this passage? Is this consistent with the passage from Galatians? How so? If we see this warning over and over in Scripture, what conclusion(s) should we draw from that?

Read 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1. If we, ladies, are the temple, where the Spirit of God indwells, literally, what implications does that have for your life? What promises has God made regarding His people? Because of this, His people are supposed to do what? When we obey Him, what relationship do we have with God? Knowing this, what is Paul's conclusion in 7:1? How does this tie in with 1 Corinthians 6:12-20?

Read Romans 6:1-4. Some were accusing Paul of saying that believers could be free to sin however they wanted because they were forgiven. What is Paul's response to that question? What point is Paul making in connecting believer's baptism with Christ's death and resurrection?

Read Hebrews 12:1-2. Seeing the faithful witness of those who have come before us, what should their faithfulness encourage us to do? What two “roles” does Jesus accomplish for us? With what attitude did Jesus endure the cross? What did He not consider of importance, as He did this? Where is He now? What does that tell us about the result of His mission on the cross?

Ladies, our sin is so heinous that Christ had to die to pay for it. Yet, He went willingly to the cross, didn't consider Himself above the shame that came with the death on a cross, and looked ahead to the price for which He died. We are that price. He looked forward, with joy, to redeeming His bride...us. Believers. His people. Knowing that He was THAT willing to do what had to be done, even though justice would have consigned us all to hell, what response should we have toward our Savior?

Read 1 Peter 1:14-19. What is being contrasted here? How are we to conduct ourselves "during our exile"? (During our exile refers to the time that we are here, on this earth, as strangers and aliens in a foreign land, as this world is not our home.) What ways did we inherit from our forefathers? What changed for us? How does this line up with 1 Corinthians 6:12-20?

Ladies, as you spend time with God today, consider these truths we've looked at today. You are not your own. Knowing that, who are you living to please? Yourself? Everything you do should be done with the question "Am I honoring God in this?" in the back of your mind. No, you won't be able to do this perfectly, but that doesn't mean we "go on sinning so that grace may increase." How are you, as a temple and as part of the corporate temple of God, living to reflect this truth? Ask God to help you to see where you are inviting things into His temple that should not be there. Seriously consider what things you are giving your approval for in what you see, what you wear, and what you are doing.

Read through Matthew 5:27-30. Knowing how seriously God takes sin, ask God to help you to see where you may need to "pluck out" something that is causing you to sin. (I'm not advocating actually mutilating your body, but remember; Paul says "flee from sexual immorality"...how are you fleeing?)

Ask God to help you to see where you are allowing yourself to be influenced by the world, instead of being set apart for Him. Holiness is a serious issue; are you striving, with the Holy Spirit, toward holiness, or are you counting on God's grace to overlook your sin? Ladies, our lives should be lives of continual repentance and faith; repentance is not a one-time thing.

Ask God to help you to take holiness seriously, for His sake. Ask Him to help you to want to honor Him daily.