

1 Corinthians 6:1-11 (April 24, 2022)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

1. **NOTE:** In chapter 5, Paul addresses the issue of tolerating “sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans” (1 Corinthians 5:1). The Corinthian believers had abdicated their responsibility to judge. “Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?” (1 Corinthians 5:12)

Why should believers be competent to judge right from wrong (1 Corinthians 1:24-25, 30; 2:15-16; 6:2-3)?

2. What three things does Paul claim that Corinthian believers “do not know”? How do his questions give logical rationale for why believers should not take other believers to civil court?

3. Paul introduces what choice for those considering going to civil courts (1 Corinthians 6:7-8)? Why would this be a better choice? How are Jesus’s words applicable (Matthew 5:39-41)?

4. “Paul would be horrified if we were to use this passage as a pretext for cover-ups, institutional silence or the protections of abusive leaders when serious allegations are made. He is saying that if I have a dispute with my Christian plumber, I should handle it within the church, perhaps using mediation or an equivalent process, rather than suing him or her in the courts; he is not saying that a claim of sexual abuse should be hidden from the police and resolved by elders instead. As we have seen with tragic frequency, that sort of response leads to exactly the outcomes---division, pain and shame upon the church’s reputation—that Paul has written this section to avoid.” (1 Corinthians For You p. 57 by Andrew Wilson)

Considering 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, discuss your thoughts concerning the quote above and from the previous chapter in 1 Corinthians 5:9-13.

5. Identify where Paul repeatedly uses the term “brother(s)” and share why he does so? How has their behavior contradicted John 13:34-35; Galatians 5:13; and 1 John 4:20-21?

6. “The unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God...And such were some of you...” Paul reminds them. How does 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 reveal the transforming power and actions of God. Share one specific way God has transformed you.