

## Week 9 Discussion Questions

**Text:** 1 Cor 5:1-13

**Icebreaker:** Have you ever ignored or tolerated a problem or issue that only got worse over time? What happened?

1. Read this week's passage. What stands out to you from the text or from the sermon you heard Sunday?

2. The first two verses of chapter 5 are an abrupt shift to a tough topic! What was wrong about the response of the Corinthian church to what was happening?

*Application:* What reasons can you think of for why people in a church like ours may ignore or excuse a problem of immorality that we instead ought to confront directly?

3. Verses 3-5 are hard to grasp, but here Paul directs the Corinthian church on how to respond. What is most clear from these verses about Paul's desired outcome for both the offender and the Corinthian church?

*Application:* From these verses, what good things does the church miss out on when immorality is ignored or tolerated within it?

4. Paul refers to Old Testament imagery in verses 6-13 to explain the "why" behind his instructions. How would you summarize what he says?

*Application:* As you think about Paul's words, refer back as well to 3:16-17. What do these verses suggest about how the church should be set apart in our world?

5. Paul clarifies a misunderstanding in verses 9-13. What difference does his clarification make?

*Application:* What happens when we fail to make the distinctions Paul is carefully pointing out in these verses? Does this challenge your own understanding of how you ought to respond to others who are caught up in immorality? If so, how?