

Week 10 LEADER Discussion Questions

Text: 1 Cor 6:1-11

Icebreaker: What are some common first reactions when we feel wronged by another?

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

2. Verses 1-8 address another example of division in the Corinthian church. Why were these legal actions a problem from Paul's perspective?

In addition to being a cause of division, which is itself a problem, these legal actions revealed that the Corinthians lacked wisdom in spite of their claims to be wise (see 3:18; 4:10). The problems also exposed a greater concern for personal gain than for the witness of the church in the city (see v. 6). Their perspective on these conflicts was skewed by immaturity and self-seeking...and likely various forms of greed related to their disputes.

Application: When "trivial" (v. 2) disputes happen between believers, do you think of the church as being a place where those issues can be resolved? Explain what you think.

3. In verses 2-3, Paul appeals to a future day when "the saints" will participate in judging the world and even angelic beings. What does this suggest about the role and authority of those who are saved by Christ?

This question is a bit abstract, so feel free to skip if you don't think it's helpful. These verses remind us that we are being saved by Christ, not to be mere consumers of heavenly blessings, but as people who will one day rule and reign with Christ. We are not yet who we one day will be, but God has given us resources in this age to live wisely under his authority until the return of Christ.

Application: Read Daniel 7:22, Matthew 19:28, and Revelation 20:4. It's ok for us to admit we don't fully grasp all that these entail, but how might this vision of our future help shape our perspective of our lives today?

4. Look up Matthew 5:38-42 and 1 Peter 2:23. Where do you see the "attitude" of these verses reflected in the first 8 verses of 1 Corinthians 6?

This should be straightforward. Paul is applying the mindset Jesus exhibited and taught his followers to adopt.

Application: Why is it so difficult for us to “rather suffer wrong” or “rather be defrauded” than to pursue some kind of vindication against someone who we feel has wronged us?

5. What can we learn about the background of some in the Corinthian church from verses 9-11? What point do you think Paul is making in these verses?

“And such were some of you.” Some of them had been enslaved by the kinds of unrighteous living that Paul includes in verses 9-10. The implication is that they were no longer these things because of what God had done for them! They should live under their new identity and live out the righteousness that God had called them to.

Application: As a response, take time to pray together that we would humbly and gratefully live as people who have been “washed...sanctified...[and] justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” Also, ask for God’s help to respond faithfully when we feel wronged by another brother or sister in Christ.