

Sermon Notes

GOSPEL TRANSFORMATION

1 CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 6

Big Idea: The Best Way to Manage Your Passions is by a Lifestyle of Surrender to Jesus.

A. Don't let Your Passions Tarnish the Gospel (v.1-8)

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!

B. See Clearly Where Unbridled Passions Lead (v. 9-10)

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.

C. See Clearly What Jesus Has Done for You (v.11)

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.

Galatians 5:16

“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”

A. Don't let Your Passion Tarnish the Gospel (v.1-8)

B. See Clearly Where Unbridled Passion Leads (v. 9-10)

C. See Clearly What Jesus Has Done for You (v.11)

D. Discern How to Live In Christ (v.12-14)

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. 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.

1. Is it Helpful?
2. Will it Dominate?
3. Is it Lasting?

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E. Understanding Sex (v.15-20)

1. Marital Intimacy Mirrors Oneness with God.

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.

2. The Only Way to Manage Sexuality is by a Lifestyle of Surrender.

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.

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Study Guide



1 Corinthians 6

Introduction

Like today, Greek culture said that the body does not affect the soul, that food and sex are just natural appetites, and if you are hungry, you eat, and if you feel sexual, have sex. The Bible, on the other hand, tells us that culture is deceiving us, driving us to follow our passions, and the results are devastating on our lives and our communities. We find a lot of brokenness around us because of people who just follow the lusts of their flesh. So, what is the answer? What is God's design on how to handle our desires?

1. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-8.** Have you ever had a time when you felt, "I have these rights!", or "This belongs to me!"? How can unbridled passion affect our witness to others?
2. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.** People driven by passions don't go to heaven. Discuss the list and describe how each of these are lust-driven and never fully satisfy us. Notice as Christians, this is what you 'were' (v11). How did you get saved, and how have you noticed God, "by the Spirit", starting to curb some of these passions and redirect your focus? Describe what it means for you to 'walk in the Spirit' (Galatians 5:16).
3. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-14.** Share some of your experience when it comes to how you decide on activities that you do. Is it helpful? Will it dominate me? Does it have any eternal value?
4. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:15-17.** Here Paul uses human sexuality as a prime illustration for how to handle our passions. What do you see in this passage? Why is sex such a sacred thing to God? Discuss the idea that marital intimacy mirrors oneness with God.
5. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20.** A lifestyle of surrender includes fleeing sexual sin, and surrendering your moments and days to God ("*You are not your own*"). Discuss what a lifestyle of surrender looks like to you. What has been helpful for you? What has been difficult?

Application

Take a few minutes to pray quietly and ask God to give you wisdom on how to handle and redirect your own passions for money, sex and power. Ask God to make you aware of areas you are not surrendered and be willing to surrender these over to Him.

Next, pray as a group for each other to live a lifestyle of surrender to Jesus.