



RADIANT CULTURE

GOSPEL LIGHT IN EVERYDAY LIFE



Scripture | 1 Corinthians 5.6-8

What draws a church together after failure? In 1 Corinthians 5, the problem is an unsavory, illicit relationship. Instead of ‘cleaning house,’ the church compounds the problem by boasting in what and who they were. Nothing draws the church back where it should be like the Lamb of God. Corinth cannot correct the situation on its own. The Lamb of God takes away sin at the cross and now in the church. He is focused on the redemptive work of Jesus. His work calls us to make a clean break from sin and enjoy the salvation with Christ. We must stop playing around and toying with sin.

Observation

READ 1 Cor 5.6-8 | Because Jesus the Lamb has been sacrificed a radiant church must become what it already is.

What boasting might the Corinthians have been doing that would make Paul call it “not good?” How would their boasting have differed from the boasting Paul had already told them was actually good? (1:26-31)

Why was their boasting misinformed? What saying does Paul employ to inform them?

What does the saying mean? Why would Paul use that saying for the church in Corinth?

What command does Paul give them? (7) Why would the command follow on the saying he had just used?

How does Paul use both a command and a statement of fact together in v7? How does the statement about what they are work with the command to be what they are?

In what sense were the Corinthians a “new lump?” What reason does he give for their being a new lump?

How does Paul take the idea of the feast of unleavened bread that followed the Passover and change its significance? How does his use of the present tense “celebrate” make the festival an ongoing reality?

What does Paul mean by “the leaven of malice and evil,” and the “unleavened bread of sincerity and truth?” How might these function as summary terms for sin and righteousness?

How would you summarize what Paul’s point is to the Corinthians? How does the sacrifice of Jesus the Lamb make them new?

How does a church clean out the leaven of malice and evil? Why should they be continually celebrating a feast to the Lord in sincerity and truth instead?



READ Exodus 12.14-21 | Because Jesus the Lamb has been sacrificed all leaven must be removed from the celebration.

What does the Lord call the Passover? (v14) What would remembering the Passover in the past anticipate in the future for God's people?

What was to immediately follow the Passover? (v15ff) What condition does He give for the feast of Unleavened Bread? (vv15, 19, 20)

What significance does He place on the feast of Unleavened bread? (v17) How does the unleavened bread become the symbol or icon of the Exodus from Egypt?

In what way is removing leaven from their homes a response to the sacrifice of the Passover Lamb and to God removing Israel from Egypt? How can these apply to followers of Jesus?

How does Scripture sometimes use "leaven" to represent sin? (Lk 12:1) How does leaven sometimes function to express "persistent spread" or "influence?" (Matt 13:33)

How is leaven used differently in this Exodus passage? How does Paul use "leaven" in 1 Cor 5:6-8?

How involved was the removal of leaven to be for the feast? How does the complete removal of leaven work in Paul's instruction in 1 Cor 5:6-8?

Why should a church be diligent in removing sin? What cautions should we consider when thinking about removing sin at FMFB? (Matt 18:15, 1 Cor 5:5-8, Gal 5:25-6:1, 1 John 1:8-10)

READ 2 Corinthians 6.14-7.1 | Because Jesus the Lamb has been sacrificed a radiant church cannot partner with sin.

In this portion of 2 Corinthians dealing with idolatry, what principle does Paul employ as he instructs the church? What parallel terms does he use in v14?

How might "yoked," "partnership," and "fellowship" express related ideas about what Paul has in mind? How might those ideas be expanded with the questions about "accord," and "share," and "agreement?" (vv15-16)

What does Paul want the Corinthians to avoid? What contrasts does he use to tell why he wants them to avoid it?

How does God describe the church that "we" are in v16? How does his description look back to Exodus and forward to FMFB, as well as all churches?

How does Paul reason from what God's people the church is in v16 to what they should do in v17? What point does Paul make by piling up and applying OT promises to the Corinthian church in vv17-18?

What conclusion does Paul draw as he instructs the church in 7:1? How might this instruction relate back to what he commanded in 6:14?

How should Paul's words impact what I do about my own sins? How should they impact what we do with unrepentant sin in our church?

Why is removing sin individually and collectively different from legalism? (v15) Why should removing sin always involve a desire for repentance? (2 Cor 7:9-10)

Application

1. What stuck out to you or challenged you in what you heard in the sermon or read in the text? How did the Spirit move you to respond?
2. Describe a time you over-seasoned a recipe, mixed up ingredients, or made some other error to negatively impact a dish. Why is it important to include the appropriate type and amount of ingredients?
3. What are some of your favorite names for Jesus? When you hear, 'Jesus is the Lamb of God' what comes to your heart and mind?
4. What have you heard or been taught about the Passover? What comes to mind when you hear the word "Passover"?
5. How does reflecting on the gospel impact the way we approach our sinfulness and church discipline?
6. How can a renewed focus on the sacrificial death of Christ empower us to turn away from sin?
7. How can we guard against any "leaven" being accepted and affecting our church or small group?
8. What, if anything, needs to change about your worship in light of this peak inside the throne room of God (Revelation 5)? What parts of your heart and life are not worshiping Jesus fully?
9. How is this a true statement, 'Missions happens because worship does not'? What responsibility do we have to those who do not worship the Living God?
10. In what specific ways have you been following Jesus recently (work, family, church, etc.)? How can we follow the Lamb more faithfully?
11. How can you use what you've learned today to share Christ with someone in your community?

Prayer

1. Pray that each member will begin investing in someone to bring to Easter.
2. Pray for encouragement and strength for the Yu family.
3. Pray for the gospel seeds planted by BSM's New Orleans Mission.
4. Pray that Kid's Ministry will grow through Awana, VBS, and other gospel events.
5. Praise Jesus as our Passover Lamb. Pray that the Lord will convict our church of any past, unconfessed sin. Pray that our church will faithfully gather to celebrate Jesus the Lamb of God.

Observations & Prayer Requests

- **MY THOUGHTS** | Record insights and questions from the group experience.

- **MY RESPONSE** | Note specific ways you'll put into practice the truth explored this week.


- **MY PRAYERS** | List specific prayer needs and answers to remember this week.



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