

**Together: Study of 1 Corinthians**  
***“When is it OK to Judge Others?”***  
**1 Corinthians 5:1-13**  
**February 25, 2018 / Pastor Shawn**

**1. We judge continual, unrepentant sin in grace and with truth.**

<sup>1</sup> It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that even pagans do not tolerate: A man is sleeping with his father's wife. <sup>2</sup> And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have gone into mourning and have put out of your fellowship the man who has been doing this? <sup>3</sup> For my part, even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. As one who is present with you in this way, I have already passed judgment in the name of our Lord Jesus on the one who has been doing this. <sup>4</sup> So when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, <sup>5</sup> hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 5:1-5

**2. Continual, unrepentant sin will corrupt the whole church.**

<sup>6</sup> Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? <sup>7</sup> Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

**3. Every follower of Jesus has the responsibility of judging every follower of Jesus living in unrepentant sin.**

<sup>9</sup> I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— <sup>10</sup> not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. <sup>11</sup> But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.

<sup>12</sup> What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? <sup>13</sup> God will judge those outside. “Expel the wicked person from among you.”

1 Corinthians 5:9-13

**Discussion Questions**

*(Use the following questions which would best help your group; don't feel like you have to answer every question. The goal is to engage the text and apply it. These questions are adapted from 1 Corinthians, NavPress, 2014)*

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday's message? Why did this stand out to you?
2. Based on Sunday's message, when is it OK for Christians to judge others?
3. What do you think Paul means by each of these phrases?
  - a) “when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit” (5:4)
  - b) “the power of our Lord Jesus is present” (5:4)
  - c) “hand this man over to Satan” (5:5)
  - d) “for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved” (5:5)
4. What are the Christians boasting about (5:6)? Why is their boasting bad? (Explain the figure of speech in 5:6).
5. What does it mean, in 1 Corinthians 5:7, that Christians “really are” bread without yeast? How should this affect our behavior?
6. With whom should a Christian neither associate nor even eat? Why?
7. Do you practice any of the sins Paul names in verse 11? If so, what steps can you take to change?

**Pray as a Group:**

Without mentioning names or specifics, pray for anyone you know who is in the grip of severe sin. Ask the Lord to protect each of you from the sins Paul names. Ask Him to give you and the groups you are involved with wisdom to deal with brothers and sisters who are practicing flagrant, unrepentant sin. Thank Him for Christ, your Passover Lamb, and for making you a new batch of dough without yeast of malice and wickedness.