

May 21,2023
Pastor David Uth
Awkward Conversations
1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Text: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 “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. **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[d] 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. **18** Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin[e] 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.

Sermon Notes:

Instructions:

This discussion guide serves as a conversation starter for your small group. Every week we will feature an icebreaker question in the **Belong** section as well as give you a recap from the week before. Your main discussion will be centered around the **Believe** section where you will read the key passage and answer suggested questions based on the sermon. Feel free to use some or all of these questions or add your own. Finally, in the

Belong:

Ice Breaker Question: What are you looking forward to most this summer?

Recap: Last week Pastor David spoke on 1 Kings 17, the story of Elijah and a widow from ZAREPHATH. He reminded us to do the next thing God tells you to do even when it doesn't make sense. He also shared that we can be faithful with a little and to realize that with God we are never alone. This week he will teach from 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 in which the Apostle Paul reminds the church in Corinth that they are to glorify God with their bodies.

Believe:

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-13 - The phrase "All things are lawful for me" is believed to have been a common slogan in Corinthian culture. What do you think it means?

What are some current day slogans that talk about freedoms or beliefs that you have heard in conversation or seen online?

How does Paul reject this way of thinking?

What is an example of something that is lawful but not necessarily helpful that you have set aside?

How have other people reacted to your decision?

Was there a difference in the reaction of non-Christians and Christians to your decision?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:14-16

To be a “member” of Christ means that you are united with Him. So knowing this, why does it matter what we do with our bodies?

Read Genesis 2:24 - God’s provision and plan for marriage from the beginning has been one man and one woman united as one flesh for life.

How is what is being discussed in 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 different from God’s original plan?

Corinth was known as a city where everything was permitted. There is a consistent theme in this letter to the Corinthians that the church was to be set apart and different for the culture around them.

Do you find this message in the church today?

On a scale from 1-10, 1 being easy to 10 being difficult, how challenging do you find this way of thinking? At work? In your family? At the gym? At church?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:17-20

What does Paul say is a proper response to sexual immorality?

Read 6:18 in several Bible translations to see what words are used in place of “flee”.

A great example of this type of “fleeing” is found in the story of Joseph and Potipher’s wife Genesis 39:6-12. In the face of constant temptation, what did Joseph do?

We are not only united with Christ, our as believers our bodies are also compared to what?

In general, a temple, at least in Paul's day, was considered sacred. What would you compare this to today?

How do you treat a sacred space?

What kind of things do you do there?

What kind of things would you not consider doing there?

Does it give you a sense of responsibility to think about you as the dwelling place of God?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 again.

If you are your own, how do you make decisions about your life's purpose?

What comes to mind when you hear "you were bought with a price?"

What price was paid for your life?

If you are a believer, what belongs to you?

How does this impact the decisions you make about your life's purpose?

Give an example when you made a decision because your life belongs to God instead of yourself.

Was it easy or difficult? Do you have any regrets?

Become:

Do you need to change anything in regard to how you view your body and how you use it? In this passage of Scripture it is easy to get lost in "do's and don'ts". But it is also a beautiful passage that tells about God and his character. What is something you notice about who God is, that makes you want to glorify or honor God with who you are as his child?

Prayer: Lord, thank you for the price you paid to purchase my life. You gave your one and only Son that you loved so that I can be your child too. Help me to live with courage and conviction in the way I steward my body and my life. I want to honor you in all that I say and do.

