

WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your group.



FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What was the problem with the Corinthian church and how do you see some of the same things happening in churches today?
2. Do you think that churches today are overly influenced by culture? Examples? Do you think that YOU are overly influenced by our culture?
3. Give some reasons why this man’s sin was so big.
4. Paul was tough on this guy. How would you have felt had you known this immoral man personally? Would you have talked to him about his sin and encouraged him to stop?
5. Why is it important that the church deal with sin in the members, workers, and leaders?
6. What was the best thing you learned from this study?

MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS SERIES

1Cor. 5:7 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.



April 21 & 22, 2018 | Think Differently #1 | 1Cor. 5 | Dennis Miller, pastor

ONE THOUGHT AS A BACKDROP

The church has been so influenced by the WORLD that sometimes we don’t know if we are being faithful to His WORD or if we are just following the world’s system. In these situations, it is so important to get back to the Scriptures and find His DIRECTION and desire for us.

SOME CONTEXT

1. In Corinth, there was an EASY-living attitude that typically didn’t ALIGN with a holy life that we might have seen among the EARLY Christians in Jerusalem (or even Christians today).
2. The church in Corinth was influenced by the LIFESTYLE, the CULTURE, and the various groups that had come to this area; therefore were not acting like the church the Lord had DESIGNED.

THE PROBLEMS

1Cor. 5:1 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. 2 And you are proud! . . .

In the Corinthian church, there was IMMORALITY taking place that even the pagans outside the church did not TOLERATE. This had become COMMON knowledge in the community and beyond.

Problem #1— A man in the church (*a Christian man and possibly a leader*) was having an IMMORAL relationship with his father's WIFE. (Not his mother.)

—This kind of behavior was obviously not ACCEPTABLE to God or even to Gentiles or ROMAN law.

Lev. 18:8 “Do not have sexual relations with your father's wife; that would dishonor your father.

—Several things that we can learn about this sin from the passage:

- a. The sin was not ADULTERY (πορνεία, porneia).
- b. The sin was ONGOING (“*a man is sleeping . . .*”).
- c. The WOMAN was probably NOT a believer.

Problem #2 — The church was PROUD of this situation. The assumption is that they viewed themselves as TOLERANT.

THE PROPER RESPONSE

1Cor. 5:2 . . . Shouldn't you rather have gone into mourning and have put out of your fellowship the man who has been doing this?

1. The other MEMBERS of the church should have GRIEVED over this situation.
2. The man should have been REMOVED from the fellowship (church) while he CONTINUED in this relationship.

THE PRESCRIPTION

1Cor. 5:3 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. 4 So when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, 5 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. 6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? 7 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. 8 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. Firstly, Paul gives his AUTHORITY on this matter.
2. Secondly, when the church is ASSEMBLED (*you have the authority of the church, of Paul, and of the Lord*), REMOVE this

man from the church for his sake and for the church's PROTECTION. (Publicly — no elders mentioned yet).

- a. For the MAN'S SAKE — “*for the destruction of his flesh so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.*”
- b. For the church's PROTECTION — “*a little yeast leavens the whole batch.*” — Sin in the church leads to more sin . . .

3. Lastly, do this because Christ SACRIFICED Himself to make us PURE. Don't MOCK Jesus' sacrifice!

THE PREVENTION

1Cor. 5:9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10 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. 11 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. 12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. “Expel the wicked person from among you.”

1. This concept was not NEW to the Corinthians and that was why Paul was so FIRM on this matter! (*I've already told you!*)
2. However, he also reminded the people that he was not talking about dissociating oneself from the WORLD. You can't help but be among people who are living in sin in a SECULAR culture.
3. Paul said again FIRMLY, “*Don't associate or even eat with Christians who are living in intentional, ongoing sin!*”
4. The list of SINS that Paul gave was a list of people and sins that he addressed in this LETTER.
5. Paul reminded the people that God would JUDGE those outside the church, but that their job was to “*remove the sinful guy*” from within the Body and keep the church PURE.

OUR ROLE?

1. Don't be PROUD of your freedom in Christ to the point that you start living and thinking like the WORLD.
2. All of us should help keep the CHURCH pure by personal Godly LIVING, and by encouraging fellow Christians who may be living outside of God's plan to CHANGE their ways.