



## Church-Wide Bible Study

### Metropolitan Baptist Church

Dorothy I. Height Community Academy PCS

Armstrong Campus

First and P Streets, NW

7:00 – 8:45 PM

## Bible Study Notes

**Date:** March 10, 2009

**Text:** I Corinthians: 6

**1. What does this chapter say?**

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**2. Why are Christians urged not to take other Christians to court? v.1-3**

Don't forget that this is a pastoral letter, an attempt at pastoral care for the congregation he (Paul) founded.

**3. To whom does the word “unbelievers” refer in v. 6?**

Corinthians are taking each other to court over property rights that could have been handled in the Corinthian assembly. This has caused tensions in the church.

The unbelievers refer to the civic magistrates of the Roman colony who are not part of the Christian community. Cases brought by Christians against Christians are being heard in public court.

**4. Why are the lifestyles to which Paul refers important and what specific meaning do they have? V.9**

Paul introduces a range of people whose lifestyles may have been accepted in wider Roman and Greek society but which were defined as wicked by God's standards.

**5. “fornicators ... covetous ... extortioners ... idolators” What makes the difference between “us” and “them”? What is Paul's position on homosexuality? v.9**

The court cases referred to in chapter 6 are not so much about property or economic issues as they are about sexual issues. Paul condemns these

lifestyles because the Corinthians have been redeemed in the name of the Lord Jesus and in the spirit of our God.

In this chapter Paul speaks of male prostitutes - **malakoi** which means a soft person, someone effeminate / homosexual offenders –**arsenokoitai** which is derived from Leviticus 18:22

More important, a cross section of the church members had morally questionable backgrounds.

#### **6. What does it mean to be “washed ...sanctified...(and) justified?” v.11**

Corinthians are washed (baptized), sanctified (**hagiasmos** – set apart unto God – II Thess.2:13) and justified (**dikaiosis** – acquittal – the believer is justified on the grounds of Christ’s death – Rom.3:23-26) God’s deliverance is deliverance from an oppressive state of contamination, that is, deliverance from Roman ways.

#### **7. Can the soul be separated from the body? v.14**

This was an effort on the part of the Corinthian community to separate the soul from the body so that they could partake of sexual immorality without feeling that it mattered to their soul.

#### **8. What does it mean to be bought with a price? V. 20**

Christ’s death on the cross has “bought” the lives of Christians as it removed them from the ownership of sin. The Greek verb “honor” can also be translated “glorify.”

How does the Christian life reconcile all of this?

- Christ takes hold of us – the new birth (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- The Spirit indwells us (I Cor.3:16)
- God secures us in Christ (Ephesians 1:13)
- The spirit controls/reduces the negative manifestations of psychosocial maladjustments (anxiety, depression, substance abuse, dependence, dysfunctional parenting, low self-esteem, promiscuity) (Rom. 7:24-25; 8:1-2)

Next weeks assignment: Chapter 7

Did you remember to bring someone to Bible Study? You promised!!!!!!

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