

# Lesson 4: Sin in the Church

## A. The sin of sexual immorality

1. What sexually immoral conduct was occurring in the church at Corinth? 1 Corinthians 5:1
2. Why was Paul so concerned about the response of the members of the Corinthian church? 1 Corinthians 5:2,6,
3. Why do you think the Corinthian church members were “puffed up” rather than mourning about this sexual immorality in their midst?
4. Rather than tolerating sexual immorality or celebrating it, what counsel does Paul give to Christians in Corinth? 1 Corinthians 6:18 (see also 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8)
5. What are your thoughts about Paul’s counsel regarding the appropriate response to those engaged in sexually inappropriate conduct? 1 Corinthians 5:2,5,9,11,13
6. Why is sexual immorality of any kind so damaging to the individuals involved and to the church as a whole? 1 Corinthians 6:15-17
7. When we flee from sexual immorality, where should we run to? 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Genesis 39:7-12, James 4:7-8, etc.
8. What word of hope does Paul give to those who have acted in a sexually immoral way? 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

## B. Resolving conflicts among church members

1. 1 Corinthians 6:1,5-6 What was the common practice for resolving conflicts among church members in Corinth?
2. Why is it preferable to resolve conflicts following the counsel of Jesus in Matthew 18:15-17?
3. Share a time God helped you to resolve a conflict.
4. When might it be necessary to involve civil authorities (police, magistrates, judges)?

## C. Christian marriage and Christian singleness

1. How is a healthy Christian marriage a defense against sexual immorality? 1 Corinthians 7:1-5
2. What counsel did Paul give to Christians in Corinth who were single? 1 Corinthians 7:7-9
3. What counsel did Paul give to those who were married? 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
4. What counsel is helpful for all of us? 1 Corinthians 7:17
5. What lessons about marriage have you found helpful from our study today, whether you are single or married?