

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The verbs are underlined. The main clauses remain to the left, and the supporting clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops or explains previous clauses.

Helpful definitions:

'Sexually immoral' = male or female, married or unmarried, fornicators

'adulterers' = married males or females, unfaithful

'men...homosexuality'= translates two words representing the passive and active partners in a homosexual act

⁹Or do you not know
that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?

Do not be deceived:
neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,
¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹And such were some of you.

But you were washed,
you were sanctified,
you were justified
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ
and by the Spirit of our God.

1. According to verse 9, what should the Corinthians already understand?

a. What does Paul say about their current understanding?

2. How does Paul describe "the unrighteous" in this passage?

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3. Why mention idolatry among the sexual sins rather than among the other nonsexual sins he lists?

4. After reading the passage, look at the helpful definitions provided in the box. Is there any kind of interpersonal sexual sin that Paul has left out?

5. As Pastor Bret mentioned in his sermon a couple of weeks ago, the unrighteous ones Paul refers to in these passages are those whose lives are consistently and unrepentantly marked by such sin. They are not fighting against their sin but are cherishing it. According to the passage, what will be the result for the unrighteous?

6. Paul says that some of the Corinthians' lives used to be marked by these same sinful ways. According to the passage, what happened to change them? (What three things does Paul say happened to the Corinthian believers in the name of Jesus and by the Spirit of God?)

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 again.

7. In verse 11, Paul could have simply said, "But you were saved." Instead, he chose to elaborate with three words – washed, sanctified, and justified. How does each one highlight an aspect of the salvation we receive through Christ?
 - a. Washed:

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b. Sanctified:

c. Justified:

8. Paul plainly states that “the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God.” What, then, is implied about those who have been washed, sanctified, and justified?
9. Who is the active agent in the washing, sanctifying, and justifying?
10. Read verses 9-10, then think back to Adam Naler’s sermon on evangelism from Mark 10:17-27 in January. In that passage we observed the parallel between the kingdom of God and salvation. Look up the following verses to see more about the inheritance that believers receive through Christ and that the unrighteous will not receive. For each one, write down a connection you see to this week’s passage.
- a. Matt 25:31-34, 41, 46

 - b. Ephesians 1:11-14

 - c. Colossians 1:9-14

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d. 1 Peter 1:3-5

11. Look up the following verses and observe the similarities in what Paul taught to the Corinthians and to the other churches. For each one, write down a connection you see to this week's passage.

a. Galatians 5:16-24

b. Ephesians 4:17-24 and 5:1-9

c. Colossians 1:21-23 and 3:1-10

12. Is there any sinner, sexual or otherwise, who is too far gone to be washed by the Spirit in the name of Jesus? Explain.

13. How does verse 11 relate to the new lump/unleavened bread word picture from 5:7-8?

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❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 again.

Grammar lesson: Periodically in the homework lessons, we ask you questions related to grammar since thinking through the grammar in a passage can help us correctly dissect and better understand what the author is saying. For example, it is helpful to recognize conjunctions like 'for' and 'since' that introduce an explanation. Another helpful exercise is analyzing the verbs. Verbs use *tense*, *aspect*, *mood*, and *voice* to express their action. The two most common verb *moods* are indicative and imperative. Indicative verbs make statements of fact or ask questions to ascertain facts (e.g., "It is 3 o'clock." or "What time is it?"). Imperative verbs command or request action (e.g., "Stop yelling!" or "Please stop yelling."). Generally speaking, the indicatives around the imperative explain why the command has been given (e.g., "**Get out of the way (imperative command for action)** because *the tree is falling toward you (indicative fact)*"). The indicatives drive the imperatives.

14. What is the imperative in this passage? (What does Paul want them to do (or not do)?)

15. What indicatives does Paul state about those who are actively living in sin? (see verses 9-10)

16. What indicatives does Paul state about the Corinthian believers? (see verse 11)

17. What impact did Paul want this week's passage to have on the Corinthians?

18. Think back to your own life before salvation. How might Paul have described the old you?

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19. How does this passage cause you to praise God? Write out a short prayer of praise.

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we, individually and as a congregation, will not be deceived in our thinking. Pray that our lives will not be marked by the sin that characterizes the unrighteous but that we will live as those who have been washed, sanctified, and justified in Christ.