

## Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Are there any difficult words here?

What were the Corinthians saying and thinking? How does Paul respond?

- v12
- v13

As a group, find as many different reasons as you can in **v12-20** for why we should flee sexual sin.

❖ Is “casual sex” OK as long as it doesn’t hurt anyone else? Why?

**Reflect:** As a Christian, you (& your body) now belong to Christ (**v19-20**).

❖ Are you prepared to be different to your surrounding culture when it comes to sex?

❖ What does it mean practically for you to flee sexual immorality?

**Case study:** *One of your Christian friends regularly sleeps over at her boyfriend’s house. She says, “I love Jesus, and we love each other, so it doesn’t matter what we do physically... after all, sex is natural, and anyway everyone does it.” What would you say to her?*

### Memory verse

“You are not your own;  
you were bought at a price.  
Therefore honour God with  
your bodies.” (**1 Cor. 6:19-20**)

Talk notes



BIBLE STUDIES 2017



# Let's talk about sex\*

(\*& greed & idolatry & drunkenness & slander & lawsuits & thievery & other things...)

## 1 Corinthians 5-6

## The story so far...

This semester in FOCUS we are studying the book of **1 Corinthians**.

This is a letter, written by the apostle Paul to the church in Corinth, in around AD55. Corinth was a prosperous, multicultural city where “anything goes”. Unfortunately, the Christians in this city were living too much like the culture around them, and forgetting their identity as God’s holy people. In this part of the letter, Paul particularly focuses on the area of sex, and what we do with our bodies.

## Icebreaker

What is your favourite TV drama?

What attitudes to sex are shown in that program?

## Pray

Ask God to help us understand, accept and obey His word even when it is challenging or hard.

### Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Are there any difficult words here?

What problem is Paul responding to here? **(v1)**

What does “sexual immorality” mean? Why is this wrong?

**pagans:** people who do not worship the true God

**day of the Lord:** the future day of final judgment when Jesus will return

**flesh:** sinful nature

**swindler:** robber

**slanderer:** someone who abuses others verbally

**sanctified:** set apart to belong to God

**justified:** declared to be in a right relationship with God

**brother/sister:** a Christian

What attitude should the Corinthian Christians have had towards this sin in their church? What attitude did they actually have instead? **(v2)**

What does Paul say they should do about this? Why?

What does Paul mean by the “yeast” metaphor **(v6-8)**?

What does it mean that Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed?

**Passover:** Many centuries earlier, God had rescued the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. They were saved from death by killing a lamb for each household, so God’s judgment would “pass over” them. Each year after this they were to celebrate the Passover festival by killing a lamb and eating bread without yeast, to remember how God had rescued them. See **Exodus 12**.

In **v9-13**, Paul describes two groups. Who are these two groups?

How is the church to treat the two groups differently? Why is this?

❖ How should we respond when we see other people sinning?

❖ What would it mean for us to obey this passage in our churches today?

### Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Are there any difficult words here?

Why are these “lifestyle sins” listed here so serious?

How are God’s moral standards different to our society’s?

What happened to the Christians **(v11)**?

For people who call ourselves Christian, how are these verses

- a warning to us?
- a comfort to us?