

GOSPEL of *Grace*
FELLOWSHIP

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Flee Immorality

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The Danger of Immorality

1 Corinthians 6:18 (ESV)
Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

- Context: temple prostitution in Corinth
- Some were taking false liberties under false pretenses
- Paul's rejoinder: flee! The body matters.

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You Belong to the Lord

1 Corinthians 6:19 (ESV)
Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

- The believer's body belongs to God
- The individual believer is a temple, in 3:16 the church ('you' plural) is a temple
- This only applies to Christians

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Glorify God! You Belong to Him

1 Corinthians 6:20 (ESV)
for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

- There has been a change of ownership
- Slaves of the Lord is an honored status
- Believers were purchased by His own blood
- We honor God by faithfulness to Him

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Implications and Applications

- We must flee from worldly lusts to escape entrapment
- What we flee and what we pursue reveals who we are serving
- Those who take seriously the price of redemption are motivated to glorify God

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False Liberty Entraps

2 Peter 2:18-19 (NASB)
For speaking out arrogant words of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error, promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved.

- Pagan religion entices Christians with freedom which is in fact bondage

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Flee Worldly Lusts

1 Timothy 6:11 (ESV)

But as for you, O man of God, **flee** these things. **Pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

- Context: Making it one's purpose to get rich and thus plunging into lusts (6:9)
- Context: love of money as a root of every kind of evil (6:10)

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6

What We Flee and What We Pursue Shows Who We Serve

2 Timothy 2:22 (NASB)

Now **flee** from **youthful lusts** and **pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace**, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

- "Lusts" is *epithumia* = "strong desires"
- These virtues are not a comprehensive list but show what believers must pursue
- "With those" shows we need each other

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7

We Are to Glorify God in All Things

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NASB)

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God**.

- Paul ended the section on sexual immorality (Chapters 5 & 6) with an admonition to glorify God
- Paul ends the section on idolatry (Chapters 8-10) with a call to glorify God

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8

Bought With a Price

Acts 20:28 (NASB)

"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God **which He purchased with His own blood**.

Ephesians 1:7 (NASB)

In Him **we have redemption through His blood**, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

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9