

“A Special Body!”
1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Introduction:

1. This Morning, Let's Head Back To Our Study In 1 Corinthians!
 - 1 Corinthians 6!
 - Before We Look At The Last Few Verses In This Chapter:
 - Need To Remember Who Paul Was Writing To!
 - A Church - A Body Of Christians - Who Were Saved From A Very Ungodly Culture!
 - And Some Of The Issues We Find In The Church Were Issues That Were Very Common In The City & Culture Of Corinth At That Time!
 - For Example:
 - The City Of Corinth Was A Very Immoral Place!
 - There Was A Great Mixture Of People In The City!
 - **IE:** Could Have Had The Same Motto As Vegas - “What Happens In Corinth Stays In Corinth!”
 - Not Something To Be Proud Of, By The Way!
 - And So - Corinth Was Known For Its Immorality Even In That Wicked Culture!
 - But - Even More Shocking - One Of The Primary Religions Of Corinth:
 - Had A Temple To The Goddess Aphrodite, Where Immorality Was Considered An Act Of Worship!
 - Corinth Was A Society Crazy By Immorality & Saturated With It!
 - **IE:** Does This Sound Anything Like Our Society & Culture Today?
 - Think About Our Entertainment Industry!
 - Think About Our Marketing Industry!
 - Sex Sells! Billboards / Commercials!
 - Think About Even Our Healthcare Industry!
 - A Selling Point For The Recently Passed Obamacare - Free Contraception - Which Just Assumes Immoral Unmarried Behavior!
 - 2. To This Kind Of Culture:
 - In Corinth & In America & In Our Own Community Today!
 - God Tells Us Through Paul: There Needs To Be A Difference!
 - A Difference Between Christians & Non-Christians!
 - A Difference In How We Think / How We Talk / How We Act!
 - And To Help Us Live The Kind Of Different Lifestyle That The Gospel Teaches:
 - We Need To Remember This: ***You Belong To The Lord!***
 - Everything You Are / Everything You Have Belongs To The Lord & Is For The Lord!
 - Remember What Paul Wrote In 6:13 - “Now The Body Is Not For Fornication, But ***For The Lord;*** And The Lord For The Body!”
 - “For The Lord!”
 - You Belong To The Lord!
 - And You Are For The Lord!
 - So Be Different! Live Differently!
 - 3. And Then 1 Corinthians 6:20 Tells Us Specifically How We Are To Live!
 - ***“Therefore Glorify God In Your Body, And In Your Spirit, Which Are God's!”***
 - This Is What Different Christian Living Looks Like & Is All About!
 - ***“Glorify God!”***
 - Especially - As It Says Here - ***“In Your Body!”***
 - **IE:** Sometimes We Make The Mistake In Thinking That Our “Body” Is Not The “Real You” – That It Is Just A Shell - But This Is Not What The Bible Teaches! You – The Real You – Are Made Up Of Spirit / Soul / ***And Body!*** ***Your Body Is Part Of The Real You – Of Who You Are!*** After All, God Created You With A Real Body! If You Are A Christian, God Has Purchased & Redeemed Your Body! Not Only That, But God Will Eventually Raise Your Body From The Dead & Glorify It! So That You & I Will Be In & Live In Our Own Real Glorified Bodies Forever!
 - So - ***The Body Of A Christian Is Special!***
 - It Is Not Just Your Spirit That Is Special To God!

- It Is Not Just Your Soul That Is Special To God!
- It Is Your Whole Being That Is Special To God!
 - Including & Especially Your Body!
- ***Your Body Is Special To God!***
 - ***“Therefore Glorify God In Your Body, And In Your Spirit, Which Are God’s!”***

4. And One Of The Ways That You Can / Must “Glorify God” In Your Special Body:
- Is Through The Moral Use Of Your Body!
 - **IE:** But, Instead, Our Bodies Sexual Function / Purpose Often Leads To Downfall!
 - **IE:** How Many Christians Have Fallen? Affairs / Divorces / Character & Testimony / Churches - Many Destroyed!
 - What Is The Answer?
 - “Glorify God In Your Body!”
 - And 1 Corinthians 6:15-20 Tells Us Why!
 - “Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. / What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. / But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. / Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. / What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? / For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s!”
 - In Order To “Glorify God In Your Body”:
 - You Need To Renew Your Mind With 3 Truths - 3 Principles About Your Body!

* First Principle - In 6:15:

- 1. *Your Body Has A Special Function!***
- So - “Glorify God In Your Body!”
 - What Is The Special Function For A Christian’s Body?
 - The Principle Of Our Function:
 - “Know Ye Not That Your Bodies Are The Members Of Christ?”
 - 3 Times In These 6 Verses - Phrase - “Know Ye Not” Or “Don’t You Know” - That Gives Us A Truth That We Need To Know!
 - First Truth / Principle That We Need To Know:
 - “Your Bodies Are The Members Of Christ!”
 - Not Just Your Spirit / Soul - Your Body As Well!
 - When You Were Saved, God Redeems All Of You & Has A Special Function For All Of You!
 - “Your Bodies Are The Members Of Christ!”
 - Your Body Is Part Of Christ’s Body!
 - **IE:** Just Like The “Parts” Of Your Body Make Up Your Physical Body - Your Physical Body Actually Is A Part Of The Spiritual Body Of Christ!
 - Just Like The “Parts” Of Your Physical Body:
 - Your Body Is To Be:
 - Joined To Christ!
 - Strengthened By Christ!
 - Of Service For Christ!
 - Your Body Has A Special Function!
 - “Christians Are Literally Christ’s Body On Earth!” (Freddy Fritz)
 - The Practice Of Our Function:
 - God Never Gives Us A Doctrine That Is Not Meant To Change Our Direction!
 - **IE:** Looking At A Map To Get Where You Are Going - Does No Good If You Don’t Follow It!
 - That Is Why The Principles In God’s Word Ought To Impact Our Practice!
 - The Principle In 6:15 - “Your Bodies Are The Members Of Christ!”
 - Needs To Impact Our Practice!
 - “Shall I Then Take The Members Of Christ, And Make Them The Members Of An Harlot? God Forbid!” – Or – “May It Never Be!”

- If You Are A Christian:
 - And Your Body Is Part Of The Body Of Christ!
 - Then - What You Do With Your Body Matters!
- If You Are A Christian:
 - And Your Body Is Part Of The Body Of Christ!
 - Should You Take Your Body & Use It For Any Kind Of Sexual Immorality?
- If You Are Involved In Immorality:
 - You Are Actually Misusing & Even Stealing What Rightfully Belongs To God!
 - The Function Of Your Body!
- Your Body Has A Special Function!
 - So What Are We To Do?
- The Purpose Of Our Function:
 - 6:20 - "Therefore Glorify God In Your Body, And In Your Spirit, Which Are God's!"

* Second Principle - In 6:16-18:

2. *Your Body Has A Special Fastener!*

- So - "Glorify God In Your Body!"
 - What Is The Special Fastener For A Christian's Body?
 - **IE:** A Fastener Is Like Glue! Super Glue / Gorilla Glue - Very Strong Bond! God Has Given Us Something Very Special To Be Like A Glue In Marriage! The Sexual Union!
- The Principle Of Our Fastener:
 - 2nd Time - "Know Ye Not?" - "Don't You Know?"
 - Second Truth / Principle That We Need To Know:
 - Has 2 Important Parts:
 - Part A - "He Which Is Joined To An Harlot Is One Body!"
 - Part B - "He That Is Joined Unto The Lord Is One Spirit!"
 - God Has Given Us A Special Glue To Fasten Us Together In The Most Special Relationship Here On Earth! Marriage!
 - Hebrews 13:4 - "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled!"
 - This "Glue" Was Designed By God & Given By God To The Very First Married Couple - Adam & Eve! Genesis 2:24 - "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh!"
 - The Sexual Union Is God's Special Glue To Join A Husband & A Wife In Marriage! So That They Can "Cleave" To Each Other & Be "Joined" To Each Other In A "One Flesh" Relationship!
 - But What Happens When You "Join" Your Body To Someone Else Apart From God's Design?
 - 6:16 - "He Which Is Joined To An Harlot Is One Body!"
 - You "Join" Yourself & Give Away More Of Yourself Each Time!
 - Sex Is Not Just A Physical Act! It Is An Emotional & Even Spiritual!
 - Those Who Are Involved In Immorality:
 - Think It Is Just Temporary & For Physical Pleasure! But It Is So Much More!
 - Ask David (Bathsheba) & Judah (Tamar)!
 - Any Kind Of Immorality Takes What God Made Special & Sacred & Turns It Into A Stain!
 - So: "Glorify God In Your Body!"
 - But - God Has Also Given Us A Special Glue To Fasten Us Together In The Most Special Relationship In The Universe!
 - 6:17 - "But He That Is Joined Unto The Lord Is One Spirit!"
 - You "Join" Yourself To The Lord:
 - Through The Glue Of Faith!
 - And Once You Do:
 - You Will Realize One Of The Reasons Why God Made Marriage!
 - The Physical Union In Marriage Between A Husband & A Wife:
 - Is A Picture Of The Spiritual Union Between A Christian & The Lord!
 - Ephesians 5:31-32 - "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. / This is a great mystery: but I speak

- concerning Christ and the church!”
- Your Body Has A Special Fastener!
- The Practice Of Our Fastener:
 - Again - The Principle Found In 6:16-17 Ought To Impact Our Practice!
 - If Immorality Joins Your Body With A Harlot!
 - And If Faith Joins Your Spirit With The Lord!
 - Then What Are We To Do?
 - 6:18 - “Flee Fornication!”
 - A Command! Flee / Escape / Avoid!
 - Reminds Of Proverbs 4:15 - “Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away!”
 - Serious Sin (And Every Kind Of Immoral Thought & Behavior Is Serious Sin) Requires Serious & Swift Action!
 - “Flee Fornication!”
 - Example In The Life Of Joseph!
 - Genesis 39:12-18 - Literally / Physically Had To Flee From The Temptation With Potiphar’s Wife!
 - The Rest Of 6:18 Gives Us Even More Reason To “Flee”!
 - “Every Sin That A Man Doeth Is Without The Body; But He That Committeth Fornication Sinneth Against His Own Body!”
 - What Does This Mean?
 - All Sins Is Serious!
 - This Does Not Take Away From The Sinfulness Of Every Sin!
 - But Not Every Sin Involves Your Body In The Same Detrimental Way!
 - But - Fornication - Sexual Immorality:
 - Is An Abuse Of Your Own Body!
 - And God’s Design & Purpose For Your Body!
 - Roger Ellsworth - “If you have a beautiful car and break the speed limit with it, you have sinned in the car but not against it. If you used your beautiful car to haul garbage in, you would be sinning against the car. That would be a desecration of the car because it would violate the purpose for which the car was made!” (Strengthening Christ’s Church)
 - Fornication Is A “Sin” Against Your Own Body!
 - “Sin” - Miss The Mark - Of God’s Purpose & Plan For Your Body - To Glorify Him!
 - This Sin, Like No Other, Leads To:
 - Spiritual Defilement
 - Public Dishonor
 - And Even Physical Disease!
 - This Is Why We Need To “Flee Fornication!”
 - In This Immoral Culture, Country & Community In Which We Live!
 - Your Body Has A Special Fastener!
 - So What Are We To Do?
- The Purpose Of Our Function:
 - 6:20 - “Therefore Glorify God In Your Body, And In Your Spirit, Which Are God’s!”

* Third Principle - In 6:19-20:

2. *Your Body Has A Special Fellowship!*

- So - “Glorify God In Your Body!”
 - What Is The Special Fellowship For A Christian’s Body?
- The Principle Of Our Fellowship:
 - 3rd Time - “Know Ye Not?” - “Don’t You Know?”
 - Third Truth / Principle That We Need To Know:
 - “Your Body Is The Temple Of The Holy Ghost!”
 - See The Importance Of Your Body!
 - “Your Body Is The Temple!”
 - The Temple Was The Sacred Place Of The Presence Of God!
 - In The Old Testament:

- It Was In The Tabernacle & The Temple!
- In The New Testament:
 - It Is In The Lives & Bodies Of His People!
 - And Like The Shekinah Glory Would Fill The Tabernacle & Temple:
 - This Is What God Seeks To Do & Eventually Will Do In You!
- See The Indwelling Of Your Body!
 - “Of The Holy Ghost Which Is In You!”
 - Isn’t This What Jesus Promised In John 14:16-17:
 - “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; / Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you!”
- See The Interest In Your Body!
 - “And Ye Are Not Your Own!”
 - If You Are A True Christian, You Cannot Be Your Own Master!
 - Instead - You Belong To Christ!
 - He Is Your Master! And You Have A Special Fellowship With Him Through The Holy Spirit, Who Is “In You”!
 - Why? “For Ye Are Bought With A Price!”
 - If You Have Been Saved, It Is Because Jesus Came To Buy You Out Of Your Slavery – To Your Self & Your Sin!
 - 1 Peter 1:19 - “With the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot!”
- Now - Your Body Has A Special Fellowship!
 - **You** Have A Special Fellowship!
- The Practice Of Our Fellowship:
 - This Principle Needs To Impact Your Practice!
 - Because: “Your Body Is The Temple Of The Holy Spirit!”
 - “Therefore Glorify God In Your Body, And In Your Spirit, Which Are God’s!”
 - This Needs To Be A Resolution In Your Life!
 - Not Yearly / Monthly / But Daily!
 - “I Will Glorify God In My Body!”
 - Because My Body Is Special To God!
 - Because You Are Special To God!
- Applies To Each One Of Us!
 - Because Temptation To Immorality Knows No Bounds!
 - This Is Not Just A Young Person’s Issue!
 - Christians Of All Ages - Young & Old - Face This Temptation!
 - This Is Not Just A Man’s Issue!
 - Christians Of Both Genders - Men & Women - Face This Temptation!

Conclusion:

1. So Make This Resolution Yourself!
 - Your Body Has Been Given:
 - A Special Function / Fastener / Fellowship!
 - So - “Glorify God In Your Body & In Your Spirit!”

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