RESOLVING CONFLICT BIBLICALLY

1 Corinthians 6.1-8

UNBIBLICAL PROBLEM SOLVING

Paul was perplexed that the church would bypass solving issues among themselves and rather go straight to public courts. By doing so, they were putting personal gain above the integrity of Christ and the Gospel.

What bothered Paul the most, was that these were avoidable, petty issues that were being made into a public display, all the while the church ignored bigger issues (seen in 1 Corinthians 5). So he walks them through how they ought to deal with issues that arise in order to *prevent* the end game of going to court.

WAYS WE TAKE PEOPLE TO COURT

Though most believers aren't getting ready to take another believer to court, there are many ways we do take people to court in our hearts and every day dealings. If we can learn to deal rightly and resolve conflict biblically at the infant stage of conflict, we can avoid going the distance to a public court.

Ways We Take People to Court:

- Gossip and Slander: talking badly (even if it's true) in order to get a leg up on someone.
- **Gainsaying:** a foundation of gossip, similar to collusion or a coup, going to others to spread your assessment or opinion to get others on board. There's a level of insubordination or sowing discord among people.
- Keeping a Record of Wrongs
- Avoidance, Silent Treatment, Passive Aggressiveness, Manipulation

THE ROOT OF (AND SOLUTION TO) THE PROBLEM

James 4.1-3

The deepest issues of the human struggle are not issues of pain and suffering, they are issues of worship.

What we worship will dictate how we respond to pain and suffering.

How Desire Takes Control:

- 1. Desire: "I want." Nothing wrong yet.
- **2. Demand:** "I must." The desire is no longer an expression of love for God and man, but something I crave for myself.
- **3. Need:** "I will." Something desirable is now seen as essential. I'm convinced that I can't live without it.
- **4. Expectation:** "You should." This is where my relationships begin to be affected. If I believe I have a need, I expect others to make it happen if they really love me.
- **5. Disappointment:** "You didn't!" Here the anger breaks out and becomes personal. You are standing in the way of what rules my heart.
- **6. Punishment:** "Because you didn't, I will.." I respond to you in anger (silent treatment, hurtful words, vengeance, etc.)

Until we see the depth of our sin as being forgiven on the cross, And see that the cross sufficiently paid for the sins of others, no amount of punishment or payback towards others will ever be enough for us.

NOTES:

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Psalm 51:10-12

- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to fill out a Connection Card so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the Connection Booth outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll join us next Sunday and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our 6th - 8th graders begin each Sunday by worshiping with the adults and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our 9th-12th graders stay in the service with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis** at **tyler@lifemission.tv.**

Contact Us

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the Memory Verse?

Read 1 Corinthians 6.1-8. What stands out to you in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday? _

Now read James 4.1-3. How do our passions play out in light of the text in 1 Corinthians 6? What role do they have in drawing us to where we even are willing to take believers to court, either public court or the private court of our hearts?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Read Luke 7.41-50. When faced with people who sin against us, what Gospel truth is revealed in this passage that help us approach that conflict with a right heart? Read the last quote in the sermon notes. How do you think the woman in this story would respond to someone who wronged her after being spoken to by Jesus in this way, and why do you think she would respond that way?

Repent and Confess

Are you quick to take people to court in your heart? Read the list in the sermon notes of ways we do this. Which are you most apt to go to? Confess this to the Lord and ask Him to help you see how much you've sinned against Him, but that He did not make you pay for your sin, but instead forgave you.

Ask for Provision

What do you need to ask the Lord for? Gospel perspective is an obvious need. Do you need a deeper trust in the Lord that enables you to entrust yourself to godly, wise people He has put in your life? Do you need to ask him to help you keep desires at bay to not become demands and needs (see the sermon notes on "How Desire Takes Control").

Your Life Mission

God has called us all to be a part of the body of Christ, His family. Is there conflict in your life that needs to be resolved? Are there steps you can take to walk in that direction to prevent things from worsening? Are you holding a grudge, or is your pride keeping you from taking the high road? Remind yourself that Christ lowered Himself so He could serve and save you, and ask Him to help you do the same.

With those outside of the church family, are there folks that you have a grievance with that the potential of extending an olive branch might become a bridge for the Gospel? What other conversations are coming up that you could use prayer for with others who currently don't believe in Jesus?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the P.R.A.Y. model with your group. Make sure to end your time of prayer Yielding with Thanksgiving for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.





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1 Corinthians 6:1-8 // May 20, 2018

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School 207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

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LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM







