

1 Corinthians 5

Passage Reflection

This page is meant for individuals, small group Bible studies, or one-on-one interactions. Since learning more about the text's meaning in our corporate gathering, I would encourage you to meditate on the passage again so that you might respond to God in praise and obedience. I've included some of my personal meditations that might benefit you. May reflection on this passage be used by God to conform you into the image of Christ.

-Pastor Andrew

What do I learn about God?

While God sent Christ as an offer of grace to the world, the New Testament still shows that God takes sin seriously. In this passage God (through Paul) is calling the church to deal with sin by removing a professing believer from among them. The purity of God's people is always important to God.

Is there anything for which I should repent based on this text?

Do I turn a blind eye to scandalous sin in professing brothers and sisters in my local church? Do I appropriately and humbly rebuke when needed? Are there any small embers of sin which could lead to scandalous sin in the future?

How might God use this passage to make me look more like Christ?

Deal with sin appropriately in my life and appropriately in the lives of others whom I have committed.

How does this passage affect evangelism?

Clearly, the testimony of Christ to a watching world is important. Personal holiness and corporate holiness will help to make the message of Christ credible. If people see us living like the world and not like Christ, why would they ever think that they needed to turn from *their* sin?

How can I edify the church based on what this passage says?

Resolve to humbly help my brothers in sisters who might be temporarily sinning without repentance.

Prayer

Father, maintaining purity in my own life and in the life of my local church takes hard work. Holy Spirit, give me courage, love, and faith when I see ways to help uphold the testimony of your Son in our church. Would you see to it that our church demonstrates Christlike living while we proclaim the message about Christ. Please keep our members from scandalous sin. Give them early repentance every day. If any of us should sin in a scandalous way, please give your people courage and love to do what is right in order to uphold our testimony.