



## “Greeting Team”

### For Sunday, October 9th

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go “welcome” people! NOTE: Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

### Greeters this week:

#### Justin Taylor Sunday Night

- 1st— D. Mastbergen Thursday PM; Jen Hagler Thursday PM
- 2nd— Justin Taylor Sunday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Sunday Night;
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon; Tackett Sunday Night

### Small Groups @ MBC

*Seek To Balance  
Worship,  
Study In The Word,  
Fellowship, Prayer &  
Witnessing*

## Announcements

1. New Attender?—  
THIS Sunday, October 9th, “Connection Sunday”; see flyer @ the Welcome Desk
2. “Servant Equipped”—  
continues TONIGHT, at 6:15 pm in the Cameroon Room; bring a friend

## No Sexually Immoral—Part II

In last week’s post, we noted that God has no “hierarchy” of sin when it comes to sexual sin. To judge “sexual sin” rightly is to agree with God that “*Sexual Sin Is Sexual Sin Is Sexual Sin.*” So, don’t make homosexual sin a bigger sin than God does! God’s holiness is repulsed by all sexual sin! We concluded that from the text of Paul’s letter to the Church of Corinth: “*Don’t you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God’s kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or anyone practicing homosexuality, no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God’s kingdom. And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11) If you study the context, of Paul’s letter, you’ll see that he’s drawing a distinction between the “unrighteous” & the “righteous”; or, the “unbeliever” & the “believer”; or, the “unsaved” & the “saved.” And, he uses an individuals “lifestyle” or “manner of life” as evidence. One of his ongoing themes— in both letters to the Corinthians— is that true belief always produces a changed life! In his 2nd letter, Paul writes: “*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come*” (5:17) The verb tense there speaks of continuing action. Some translations say, “*...old things are passing away, and all things are becoming new...*” This speaks of the Holy Spirit’s work in us; that it’s one of progressive sanctification; or progressive spiritual growth! A genuine believer is NOT who they used to be— and, that includes their “human sexuality”! In v.11— in considering those who fail the test in v.9-10— he says to the Corinthian believers, “*And some of you USED TO BE LIKE THIS...*” Some of you USED to be caught up in the deadly lifestyles mentioned! There’s always a “before” and “after” for the believer— “before Christ” a life of habitual sin; and, “after Christ” there’s repentance and change. There is not one passage of Scripture anywhere that indicates that God has changed His mind about homosexual behavior! God has the right— as GOD— to declare “sin” to be whatever He determines it to be. He alone is the Divine Lawgiver. If He declared it a sin to drive a pink car or to be a football fan then sin it would be! Are we clear on that? Genuine faith comes to agree with God about the former lifestyle— including our sexuality!



## Examine Yourself—

That’s NOT to say that overcoming the former sins will be easy! These sins may have become “addictive behaviors”; and, they require the support & encouragement of mature believers who “disciple” them in their faith! But, God’s indwelling Spirit can give them victory! Interestingly, this is how Scripture always teaches us to judge whether faith is genuine. Genuine faith; or conversion, is not proven by saying a prayer; being baptized; or living a life filled with good deeds. Rather, the Word of God reflects back to us a changed life! Like a mirror, we view our life according to God’s Word. “*Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith. Examine yourselves. Or do you yourselves not recognize that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless you fail the test*” (2 Cor. 13:5). Is Jesus Christ in you? Are you looking more like Him every day? That’s the test! The person who loves God will give up their sin; including their sexual sin!