

## **Glorify God – 1Corinthians 6:12-20**

Bible Study ~ 1/18/17

Grace Church of Lockeford

In ch. 5 Paul deals with sexual immorality in the church. In ch. 6 he deals with the Corinthian believers taking one another to court. Paul also challenges them to live transformed lives in light of the spiritual transformation that they have experienced. The section we will consider this morning deals with the motivation for the transformed lives. The motivation is to be the glory of God. With that thought in mind, we see that Paul exhorts the believer to seek God's glory in three key areas. **First, we are to be...**

### **1. Seeking His Glory In Our Choices vv. 12-14**

v. 12 is a powerful verse. All things are lawful, but all things are not helpful or profitable. Many today flaunt their freedom in Christ as a license to engage in sin. This is not what Paul is talking about. If you read earlier in the passage you see that Paul clearly condemns behaviors that are condemned in Scripture. Paul's point here is that the things we allow must not only be things we have freedom to do, but things that are beneficial. This is the Greek word συμφέρω sympherō which means *be profitable. To be advantageous – to be or become appropriate for achieving a particular end.* KJV has "expedient" which captures the intent of the word a little better. The idea is that all things are not helpful in reaching the goal. What goal? The glory of God! We also see here that we do not want to be under the power of anything other than the Spirit of God. We are to walk in, and be led by, the Spirit. Nothing else should control us! Paul then lists two things that could control us. Food and sexual immorality. Food is a necessity, but don't be ruled by it. One day food will be destroyed and so will our stomach. Our bodies were not made for sexual immorality; they were made for the glory of God! What helps us to seek God's glory in our choices is to remember that we will be raised by God. We will spend eternity with Him! Choose to glorify Him now! We are to seek His glory in our choices, that includes what we put into our bodies, and what we do with our bodies. If we cannot eat something or engage in an activity with full confidence God will be glorified, we shouldn't do it! **Secondly, we are to be...**

### **2. Seeking His Glory In Our Bodies vv. 15-17**

Our bodies become members of Christ the moment we believe. How perverse is the thought of taking Christ and making Him a party to sexual immorality! Paul reminds us in v. 16 that any two become one flesh through sexual union. This means that if a believer takes part in that sort of behavior Christ is taken into it as well. We belong to Christ! We are one body and one spirit with Him. The decisions we make with our bodies have huge ramifications when we consider that these bodies are part of Christ! What should we do with Christ? Should we take care of what is His? Every decision we make with our bodies should be made as we consider the glory of God. Any action that does not actively and purposefully bring Him glory in our bodies shouldn't be done. Instead, we ought to seek an ever deepening intimacy with Christ. Since we are one with Him we should strive to know Him as intimately as possible. **Thirdly, we are to be...**

### **3. Seeking His Glory In All Things vv. 18-20**

Because all these things are true, we are to flee sexual immorality. Run from it because it is sinning against your own body! It is making Christ one with a harlot. Our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. He dwells in us and as a Temple is to be dedicated and set apart as holy for God, so our bodies are to be as well. The Holy Spirit takes up residence in us when we believe. Salvation is a transaction in which we are bought and paid for by the blood of Christ, this means I am no longer the owner of my body. The price of my redemption was the gruesome death of God the Son. His blood was poured out as an offering for sin. As the sinless Lamb of God He took my place! The only logical move I can make in light of all of this is to glorify Him in my body and spirit because they already belong to Him. It's like we've been given a loan. God has loaned us these bodies and we must be very careful to use them as the owner would.

There are several blessings in these verses. First, we were created to bring God glory! This is incredible. We can and will bring Him glory. Second, we will be raised by His power. Everything we endure in this life for Him will be worth it when we are in His presence! Third, when we are joined to the Lord by grace through faith, we

become one spirit with Him. We have all the power necessary to walk with the Lord living within us in the form of the Holy Spirit! Fourth, our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit! He lives in us. We are not our own. Fifth, we have the ability to glorify God in our bodies. We are purchased possessions created and redeemed for His glory! So live to bring Him glory!

**CHALLENGE:** Always, in everything, in every way, seek the glory of God!

## **V. 12**

Are Lawful – ἔξεστι *exesti* *be authorized; be permitted. To be permissible – to be allowed, especially as according to rule or custom.*

Helpful – συμφέρω *sympherō* *be profitable. To be advantageous – to be or become appropriate for achieving a particular end.*

Under the power – ἐξουσιάζω *exousiazō* *have authority over. To be controlled – to be subject to the power, authority, or influence of another.*

## **V. 20**

Bought – ἀγοράζω *agorazō* *buy; purchase. To be bought (state) – to be or become the property of another by purchase or by means of a financial transaction.*

Price – τιμή *timē* *honor; price; value. Price (amount) – the amount of money or goods needed to purchase something. This is the value of the sinners. The blood of Christ!*