

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series on Letters to New Christians. Today's topic: **SINNERS IN THE CHURCH.**

1) The sin of sexual immorality

- a. What sexually immoral conduct was occurring in the church at Corinth? 1 Corinthians 5:1
- b. Why was Paul so concerned about the response of the members of the Corinthian church? 1 Corinthians 5:2,6
- c. Why do you think the Corinthian church members were “puffed up” rather than mourning about this sexual immorality in their midst?
- d. Rather than tolerating sexual immorality or celebrating it, what counsel does Paul give to Christians in Corinth? 1 Corinthians 6:18 (see also 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8)
- e. What are your thoughts about Paul’s counsel regarding the appropriate response to those engaged in sexually inappropriate conduct? 1 Corinthians 5:2,5,9,11,13
- f. Why is sexual immorality of any kind so damaging to the individuals involved and to the church as a whole? 1 Corinthians 6:15-17
- g. When we flee from sexual immorality, where should we run to? 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Genesis 39:7-12, James 4:7-8, etc.
- h. What word of hope does Paul give to those who have acted in a sexually immoral way? 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

2) Resolving conflicts among church members

- a. 1 Corinthians 6:1,5-6 What was the common practice for resolving conflicts among church members in Corinth?
- b. Why is it preferable to resolve conflicts following the counsel of Jesus in Matthew 18:15-17?
- c. Share a time God helped you to resolve a conflict.
- d. When might it be necessary to involve civil authorities (police, magistrates, judges)?

3) Christian marriage and Christian singleness

- a. How is a healthy Christian marriage a defense against sexual immorality? 1 Corinthians 7:1-5
- b. What counsel did Paul give to Christians in Corinth who were single? 1 Corinthians 7-7-9
- c. What counsel did Paul give to those who were married? 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
- d. What counsel is helpful for all of us? 1 Corinthians 7:17
- e. What lessons about marriage have you found helpful from our study today, whether you are single or married?

