

Caring Confrontation of those Claiming to be Christians

1Corinthians 4:18-5:13

Part 1 – Attitudes and Actions to Avoid

Introduction:

- A. Is a parent's action of belting a disobedient child and revoking privileges one of love or rejection?
 - 1. It depends on the parent's a_____
 - 2. Parents need to be c_____ in communicating love in correction.
- B. How should we respond to a fellow-Christian who is caught in a sin?
 - 1. Responding correctly is essential to the h_____ of the church.
 - 2. Paul noted their arrogance toward a certain sin - *should I come with a r_____, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?* (4:17)
 - 3. He then mentions three attitudes/actions to avoid when responding to professing Christians who are in sin.

Boasting – Over_____ sin (1,2)

- A. The sin identified
 - 1. The Greek word is where we get our word porn and refers to any kind of s_____ immorality (defined as anything outside of the bounds of marriage between one man and one woman).
 - 2. The specific sin was a believer having relations with his f_____’s wife (which would be a step-mother)
 - 3. Although sexual immorality was celebrated among the p_____ world, which the Corinthians were saved out of, this was a shameful act to the pagan world.
- B. The Corinthian response to this sin – they were arrogant, or more literally, p_____ up (Greek word used of the puffing action of a bellows used to fan a fire).
 - 1. They were proud of their action of o_____ this sin.
 - 2. They were proud of their attitude of a_____ everyone.
 - 3. They were confused as to what was a response of l_____.
- C. Application
 - 1. More and more denominations are formally adopting homosexuality as an alternate lifestyle.
 - a. Reasoning – it is an in_____ tendency and so cannot be denied, so therefore should be embraced.
 - b. Counter to the above reasoning – everyone as an inborn tendency to s_____, but calls all people to repent from this tendency.

- c. Clear biblical teaching – it is a degrading, unnatural p_____ (Rom 1:26,27)
2. The most overlooked sexual sin is p_____ marital relations because it is so accepted by our culture (but culture is not to be the standard, scriptures is).
3. Common overlooked destructive sins in the church include g_____, unforgiveness.
4. There is nothing s_____ about overlooking sin. This communicates an uncaring attitude.
5. When we see a fellow-believer in unrepentant sin, it should cause us to s_____ over them (v. 2) not boast in our response.

Backbiting – T_____ over sin (1)

A. How did the apostle Paul learned of this sexual sin in the Corinthian church – by rumors?

KJV – It is reported **commonly** that there is fornication among you

NIV – It is **actually** reported that there is sexual immorality among you.

Greek word order – **Wholly** is being reported among you all
fornication

Greek understanding – On the whole, fornication is being reported by you all.

1. The s_____ of the sentence is fornication
2. The phrase “among you” is not describing the fornication as being among them, but the reporting of it. – they were all talking about it!

B. Application

1. One of the biggest mistakes made is to talk about someone’s sin to another person (often times it is the p_____)
2. The first step should always be to lovingly c_____ a person, not report it to someone else (next message)
3. Avoid spreading n_____ information about a fellow-believer which only results in tearing down and not building up.

Booting – R_____ the offender (2-5)

A. Paul uses pretty strong language that looks like that he has already decided to boot this person out of the church.

1. Verse 2 – the person should be r_____ from your midst.
2. Verse 3 – I have already j_____ him.
3. Verse 5 – I deliver such a one to S_____.

- B. Paul's strong language is misunderstood because his aim was always r_____ as should be ours (next message).
- C. Application – avoid a “one-strike-and-you-are-out” action.
1. A church board fired their pastor, charging him with failure to keep his children under control with all dignity (1 Tim 3:4) – his teenage daughter had become pregnant.
 - a. The daughter had r_____ before the church board.
 - b. The board defined “under control” as preventing children from committing a gross sin.
 2. Avoid “if-you-commit-a-certain-sin-you-are-out” philosophy.
 3. Our reactions must always be out of l_____ for the offender and must be clearly communicated.