Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

1 Cor 5:1-5 “A Disturbing Report of Sexual Immorality”

1. Apparently, Choe’s people (cf. 1:11) had given Paul a report of another problem going on in their fellowship in Corinth. How did Paul characterize the problem?

2. Paul used the Greek word “porneia” when he wrote that that was “immorality” in their church. Look up the following cross-references where the same Greek word “porneia” is used in the New Testament and write a definition. It occurs 26 times in 24 different verses. Here is a representative sample of those occurrences. (Matt 5:32; Matt 15:19; 1 Cor 7:2; 2 Cor 12:21; Gal 5:19; Eph 5:3; Col 3:5; 1 Thess 4:3; Rev 17:2,4)

3. What was it about the situation (beyond the obvious) that bothered Paul?

4. What did Paul tell them to do about the situation?

5. From vs.5, what was Paul’s ultimate objective for the corrective action?

1 Cor 5:6-8 “The Effect of Immorality on the Church”

6. What reason did Paul give for saying that their boasting was not good?

7. Why did Paul write about leaven and the Passover feast and Christ fit into that? In other words, how did Paul go from the problem of immorality to the idea of Passover?

8. Paul used the metaphor of leavened vs. unleavened bread. What was he referring to? In other words, what point was he making to the Corinthian church? (this may feel like a repeat of question 7 – and it may be)

1 Cor 5:9-13 “A Clarification About Immorality Outside of the Church”

9. Paul references a previous letter that he had written to the Corinthian church, one in which he had given them some instruction about “not associating with” immoral people. The only other place were that word is used is 2 Thess 3:14. Using that cross-reference and a Bible dictionary or commentary or study Bible notes and other translations, how would you define “not associating with”?
10. What clarification did Paul give to the Corinthian church? How had they misunderstood Paul’s first instruction?

11. Comment of the list of types of people in verse 10.

12. Compare the list in verse 10 to the list in verse 11. What’s the same and what are the differences?

13. Paul talks again about judging and not judging and he uses the same word 3 times in verses 12 & 13. It’s the same word that he used in 5:3 and in 4:5, “krino”. As I mentioned during my last lecture, that word occurs 123 times in 99 verses of the New Testament, and according to The Blue Letter Bible website, can have one of 7 different meanings. Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance lists 6 different meanings. Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words lists 9 different meanings. It’s meaning can range from forming an opinion on a matter such as in Acts 15:19 to pronouncing condemnation as in Acts 13:27. From the context here in verses 12 & 13, and the prescribed action in verse 13, what does “krino” mean in these two verses?

14. Look up the following cross-references, other places in the New Testament where the instruction has to do breaking off, or avoiding a relationship with another person. Are all of these talking about the same kind of situation as in 1 Cor. 5? If they are not the same, how are they different? What do we learn about how the church is to act with regard to its members?
   a. Matt 18:15-20
   b. Rom 16:17-18
   c. 2 Thess 3:6, 14-15
   d. Titus 3:9-11

**Application**

15. Try to put yourself back in the context of the Corinthian church with the things that were going on and with the things that Paul was telling them to do. What are some implications about what it meant to be part of that local church? How does that compare to how church membership and involvement is viewed today?

16. What is one take away for you from this chapter?