

Questions

1. Have you ever been able to get help and/or mediation from other believers for a conflict that included a brother or sister in Christ?
2. What do believers in Jesus Christ possess that would especially equip them to help other believers resolve a dispute (consider Romans 15:14; Galatians 5:22-23; 6:1; Colossians 1:9-10)?
3. When Paul writes of those "who have no standing in the church," it could also mean those who are despised in the church. How is Paul applying that to secular judges? Consider 1 Corinthians 1:28-29 and the possibility that he's turning tables here in chapter 6.
4. There is a practical limitation on the kind of legal cases that can be mediated with brotherly help, as compared to those that belong in the justice system. What does verse 2 indicate about that distinction?
5. In what way(s) might a public dispute between Christians mar the testimony of the body of Christ?
6. Why might there be irony for the Corinthian believers in Paul's repeated use of the phrase, "Don't you know."?
7. Two extremes to avoid: Living in a pattern of sin that you are not seeking to put to death by God's grace, or carrying shame from past sin that you've repented of and turned from (and not seeing your new identity in Christ). Do you struggle in either of these two directions? If so, what truth(s) can help you?

For further reading concerning 6:9: *What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality* (2015) by Kevin DeYoung and *The Bible and Homosexual Practice* (2002) by Robert Gagnon

Need prayer? Someone will be up front by the piano to pray with you after the 1st & 2nd services.

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1 Corinthians

MESSY CHURCH MIGHTY CHRIST

Such Were Some of You

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

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The disunity that marred the church in Corinth was also evidenced in believers taking other believers to secular courts to settle civil disputes. Paul was appalled by this action and his exasperation can be heard in the opening phrase, "How dare you?" There are three key elements to Paul's rebuke that we'll learn about in 6:1-11.

1. **Daring (6:1-6)** – Paul's "how dare you" was not just his shock that a believer took another believer to civil court, but it was his dismay that a believer would disregard the help, mediation, and wisdom of the body of Christ.

2. Defeating (6:7-8)

3. Deceiving (6:9-11)

1 Corinthians 6:11

"And some of you used to be like this." (CSB)

"And such were some of you." (ESV)

"And these, some of you were."