



1 Corinthians 6:1-11 “Cross-Shaped Conflict”

Discussion Questions

INTRODUCTION

In 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, Paul confronts legal conflict between fellow believers. As legal issues plagued the church, it was clear that culture was having a greater effect on the church than the church was having on the surrounding culture. God has called Christians to handle conflict between one another in a way that honors Christ.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Resolving conflict can be a very difficult. How should Christians treat conflict between one another? Why is it important for world to see Christians handle conflict with grace, truth, and love?
2. God has given the legal system to us as a gift to punish the wrongdoer. (Romans 13:4) Why are Americans quick to sue one another? Why does the church have a difficult time settling disputes among its members?
3. How should Christians handle civil disputes? Why should we handle things this way? What might give you hesitation to take certain issues to the church before you take them to a lawyer?
4. Paul says in verse 7 “Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauding?” How is going to the court as Christians against each other already a defeat? Why is it difficult to ‘suffer wrong?’ Explain the struggle behind this radical truth.
5. What is true justice for the world in light of eternity? What practical steps can we make to spend less time defending ourselves and more time defending the gospel?

PRAYER

Spend time in prayer for how we handle legal matters as the church and country.