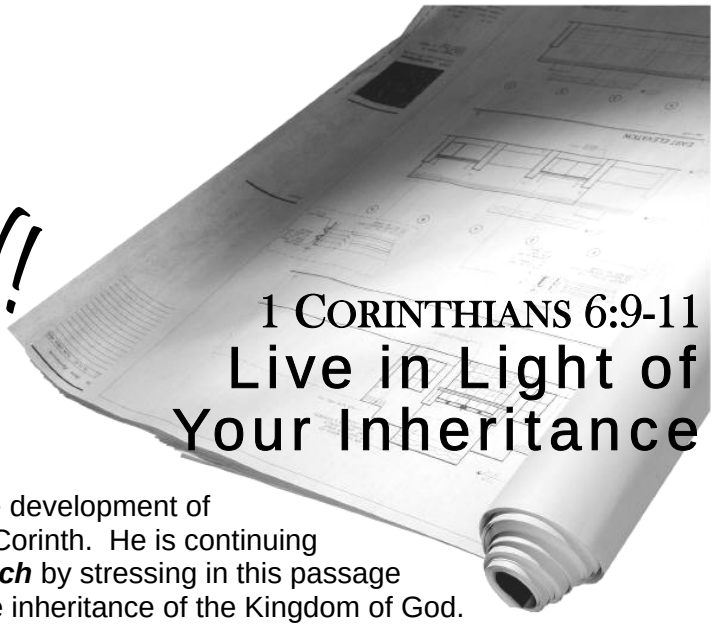
Blueprint for the Church: *Live the Gospel!*

Small Group Study Guide



1 Corinthians 6:9-11
Live in Light of Your Inheritance

This passage is a pivotal passage in the development of Paul's indictment against the church in Corinth. He is continuing to lay out God's ***Blueprint for the Church*** by stressing in this passage that all believers are to live in light of the inheritance of the Kingdom of God.

[4]David Prior, *The Message of 1 Corinthians* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Publishing, 1985), pp. 89.

1. One author wrote that "the significance of this conviction about who will, and who will not, inherit the kingdom of God effectively revolves around our beliefs about the judgment of God."[1]

    - What is your belief about the judgment, or justice of God?

    - Many people, even those inside the church, would say that the wrath of God is too harsh and cannot be reconciled with the love of God. How do you respond to this?

2. Give a basic definition of each of the following categories in which Paul identifies as those who will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

    - Unrighteous (How is this an all-inclusive category?)
    - Fornicators (How is this different than adultery?)
    - Idolaters (Are Americans an idolatrous nation? Explain)
    - Adulterers (How did Jesus raise the standard of what this includes?)
    - Effeminate and Homosexuals (Is there a difference between the two? If not, what do each mean? If so, why are they distinguished from one another?)
    - Thieves (What are some types of "culturally-accepted" thieving?)
    - Covetous (How is this similar to greed?)
    - Drunkards (In what way is this easy to define? Hard to define?)
    - Revilers (What are ways this creeps into the church?)
    - Swindlers (How is this different than thieves?)

Don't Forget:
Discuss the Sermon Notes from this week

3. Are these the only ones who will not inherit the kingdom of God or is this meant to be a sampling of types of people who will not inherit the kingdom of God? How can you be sure of your answer?

4. Look at the list again and then read Exodus 20:1-17. How are these two related and similar to each other?

[3]Gordon D. Fee, *The First Epistle to the Corinthians* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 1987), p. 246.

5. Verse 11 uses three verbs as metaphors for salvation, "each expressing a special facet of conversion."[2]

   - How does "washed" express what happened in conversion? How is this to now impact one's daily living?

   - How does "sanctified" express what happened in conversion? How is this to now impact one's daily living?

   - How does "justified" express what happened in conversion? How is this to now impact one's daily living?

BIBLE MEMORY:

But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:11

6. As the link that ties much of this instructional teaching in Corinthians, verse 11 gives the rationale for living according to God's Blueprint for the Church. What is that rationale?

7. How should one's understanding of the new reality in Christ (verse 11) ought to affect his or her devotion and commitment to being an ***A.C.T.S.*** Church.

[3]Gordon D. Fee, *The First Epistle to the Corinthians* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 1987), p. 248.

8. In verse 11, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are all mentioned in connection with the work of salvation. One commentary stated that what is often missing in the church today is an emphasis on the "transforming work of the Spirit."[3]

   - What is meant by the "transforming work of the Spirit"?

   - How is this truth essential to understanding the way to live according to God's ***Blueprint for the Church***?

For Next Week:
Prayerfully meditate and study the following: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20