

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Covenant Breaking and the Sin of Tolerance | Week 8

1. Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2. Review the Mission:

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve and build relationships with this group?

Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan, to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray: Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

3. Sermon Discussion:

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)

Primary Passage: 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Read and Recap: Have someone read **1 Corinthians 5:1-13**. Recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

- Talk about a time where you left a situation undealt with and it got worse.
- What are your current feelings or thoughts about church discipline? Have you ever heard of or experienced the concept of church discipline before this Sunday?
- Why do you think this process is something God considers so integral to our health and faithfulness as church family?

Reread verses 3-5. Paul thinks it's so important that we confront sin head-on because doing so allows us to work towards restored relationships- both between us to the Father and us to one another.

- Where have you been guilty of leaving sin undealt with (either keeping something hidden or failing to confront someone in your LifeGroup)?
- What steps can you take this week to confess your sin or confront someone else in their unrepentant sin?

*Every Group
Around ^{The} Pool*

How does living with unrepentant sin harm our mission? What message does unrepentant sin communicate about the gospel?

Pray that we would learn to mourn the sin in ourselves and in our church family.

Pray that we would be emboldened to confess or confront unrepentant sin this week.

4. Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

- Is there something you've been hiding out of fear of being confronted? Confess it this week.
- Are there any areas in which you're struggling to receive and walk in God's forgiveness?

Pray: James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.