

## For Your Family

In 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Paul writes, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

Children often say things like, “You’re not my boss!” Or “You’re not the boss of me!” even to their parents. Many grown-ups also have the idea that they are their own boss, completely in charge. They think no one else can tell them what to do, or what not to do.

Discuss with your children what they think it means when they say “You’re not my boss.”

Ask your children who they think *is* the boss of them.

Read the following scriptures and talk about God’s right to be our “boss” whether we are children or adults:

“When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless” (Genesis 17:1).

Who was Abram’s boss?

“For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy” (Leviticus 11:45).

Who was the boss of the Israelites?

Discuss *why* it is a good thing that our bodies and our whole lives belong to God.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

“And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son” (1 John 5:11)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:10)



**Being Informed:**  
Family Life Wednesdays – 7–8:30 PM

**Last Week:** Some of the Corinthian believers were using the public court system to resolve petty issues between them. Paul said they should be able to resolve them between themselves and not have to resort to an outside authority. This harmed the reputation of the church, and showed the immaturity of the people involved. He reminded them that they had been washed, sanctified, and justified “in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

**The Dangers of Sexual Sin**  
*1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

**This Week:** The Gentile Christians in the first century came from a corrupt culture that glorified sex and actually taught that unmarried sex was not only acceptable, but sometimes an obligation. They had both a theological and a philosophical argument for justifying their behavior. Paul refutes those reasons, and then marshals several arguments against sexually immoral attitudes and behaviors. He concludes with two precise statements: “Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit” and “You were bought with a price.” From that, he then makes two clear commands: “Flee from sexual immorality” and “Glorify God in your body.”

**Observing** – Paul makes several arguments against the sexual immorality in which some of the Corinthian believers were involved. It’s obvious this is an extremely important topic.

1. "All things are lawful for me." This was a saying that some of the Corinthians were using to justify their attitudes and behaviors toward sex.

What are Paul's two responses, in your own words? (vs. 12)

2. Paul again quotes the Corinthians in verse 13: "Food is meant for the stomach and stomach for the food." They were using this philosophy to justify their sexual behavior, claiming that sex was just a bodily function, and didn't really matter spiritually.

What is Paul's response in verses 13b-14?

How does he connect their struggle with their power in Christ?

Verses 19c-20 are related to this argument. What does Paul add there?

To whom do we belong? Why?

3. What is Paul's argument in Verse 15a?

What similar argument does Paul add in verse 19?

4. What is Paul's argument in verse 15bc?

What does verse 18 add to this?

5. What are the two kinds of union discussed in verses 16b-17? Although both kinds of unity are good, what is the element that pollutes and what does Paul say to do about it?

### Connecting the Dots

1. The Corinthians were justifying their attitudes and behavior toward sex by affirming their freedom in Christ. Paul challenges that by asking, "Is it beneficial?" and "Will it master you?"

Read Galatians 5:1, 13-15.

What does Paul say there about our freedom in Christ?

2. Peter writes about this same subject. Read 1 Peter 4:1-8. What will arm us against harmful vices?

What is his advice in verses 7-8?

3. Paul writes to the Corinthians about the slavery of sins of the flesh. Read Romans 6:15-19 and share what he is saying in your own words.

### Continuing the Journey

1. Have you ever found yourself using some form of the "freedom in Christ" argument to rationalize unrighteous attitudes or behaviors?

What other types of rationalizations have you used to justify sinful actions?

I'm forgiven

It doesn't hurt anyone

No one will know

Others

2. How does this passage challenge the idea of "casual sex"?

3. Paul says we need to "flee" from sexual immorality.

What forms of "fleeing" would help you avoid sexual immorality?

Example: Avoiding inappropriate flirting, even if it seems innocent.

### Next Steps:

- I will live in thankfulness, knowing that Jesus has paid the price for my salvation.
- I will not use my freedom in Christ to justify my sin.
- I will honor God with my body by:
  - \_ Committing to a life of sexual purity
  - \_ Promising to be faithful to my spouse
  - \_ Repenting of past sexual sins

### Memory Verse

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which is from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.