

## 1 Corinthians 5:12 – 6:14

New American Standard Version

1 <sup>12</sup>For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not  
2 judge those who are within *the church*? <sup>13</sup>But those who are  
3 outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM  
4 AMONG YOURSELVES. <sup>6:1</sup>Does any one of you, when he has  
5 a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the  
6 unrighteous and not before the saints? <sup>2</sup>Or do you not know  
7 that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged  
8 by you, are you not competent *to constitute* the smallest law  
9 courts? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that we will judge angels? How  
10 much more matters of this life? <sup>4</sup>So if you have law courts  
11 dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as  
12 judges who are of no account in the church? <sup>5</sup>I say *this* to  
13 your shame. *Is it so, that* there is not among you one wise  
14 man who will be able to decide between his brethren, <sup>6</sup>but  
15 brother goes to law with brother, and that before  
16 unbelievers? <sup>7</sup>Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you,  
17 that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be  
18 wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? <sup>8</sup>On the contrary,  
19 you yourselves wrong and defraud. *You do* this even to *your*  
20 brethren. <sup>9</sup>Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not  
21 inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither  
22 fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor  
23 homosexuals, <sup>10</sup>nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor  
24 drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the  
25 kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup>Such were some of you; but you were  
26 washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in  
27 the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our  
28 God. <sup>12</sup>All things are lawful for me, but not all things are  
29 profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be  
30 mastered by anything. <sup>13</sup>Food is for the stomach and the  
31 stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of  
32 them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord,  
33 and the Lord is for the body. <sup>14</sup>Now God has not only raised  
34 the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

*Use the suggestions on the back page as a starting point for your own **Observation, Interpretation, and Application.***

**Observation (What does it say?):**

*Underline everything Paul says about legal matters (judging, lawsuits, etc.)*

*What other topics does Paul mention in this passage?*

**Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

*How do these different topics relate (or do they?)*

- *How does the list of sins (v. 9-10) relate to lawsuits?*
- *Why does he bring up “washed, sanctified, justified” when he started discussing lawsuits?*
- *What does food (v. 13) have to do with any of this?*

**Application (What does it mean for me?):**

*How practical is Paul’s instruction in this passage? Have you ever seen or been a part of a controversy that could have been or should have been resolved in the church?*

*How do differences in culture today vs. the first century affect our application of a passage like this?*

*When (if ever) do we justify ignoring what seems to be a clear instruction in Scripture?*

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## Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

### *Observation* (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

### *Interpretation* (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

### *Application* (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures,  
but draw everything from them,  
and suffer nothing to remain hidden  
that is really in them.  
J.A. Benael (1687-1752)**