



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: Sin Less: Week 4 (August 6, 2023)

*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). Step 1: **GATHER** with your family or group. Step 2: **REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. Step 3: **PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Do you have more exposure to the lies of our culture, or to the truth of God's Word? Discuss.

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Proverbs 5:8, 18-21; Genesis 39:10-12. How does the Lord view sex within the covenant of marriage? Why is sex inside of the covenant of marriage praised by God and outside of marriage condemned by God? How does Proverbs 5:8 and Genesis 39:10-12 give us an example of how to sprint (flee) from sexual immorality?

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Cultural Influence. How did the Roman culture influence the Christians in Corinth and throughout Rome? What are 3 ungodly worldviews about sex that our culture has come to believe? Here's one, "*love is love.*" Why are these ungodly worldviews accepted so easily? Discuss the following quote: "Every act of fornication, every act of adultery by Christians, is committed in God's sanctuary: their own bodies. "For we are the temple of the living God" (2 Corinthians 6:16). How does this truth sober us up when we are tempted to give into sexual immorality? Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5. According to this verse what does a follower of Jesus miss out on, who does not abstain from sexual immorality?

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20. Using a good Bible Study tool like *Bible Hub* (biblehub.com) or *Blue Letter Bible* (blueletterbible.org), study through this scripture. Once you have thoroughly studied this passage, answer the following questions: Discuss the following quote and its relevance to 1 Corinthians 6:12. "No sin is more enslaving than sexual sin. The more it is indulged, the more it controls the indulger." What are the Corinthians trying to justify when they say, "all things are lawful for me" and "food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food?" According to this passage why is sex a gift to be guarded and protected? Does this passage have a high view of sex or a low view of sex? Why? In what ways does Paul underscore who we are in Christ in this passage? Find 3-4 examples. How does this passage help those who have experienced past sexual sin and want to find grace and freedom in Christ? According to 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 we take Jesus with us everywhere we go even into the bedroom. Our body belongs to Jesus especially in the area of sexual morality. Why is this thought and Scripture helpful in sprinting from sexual immorality?

DOING THE WORD

Listen to what Paul is saying. Flee sexual immorality because (1) it is not helpful, (2) it will master you and you will become enslaved to it, (3) your body is for serving the Lord not the flesh, (4) you are not joined to Christ when you are joined in sexual immorality. Friends, we are wrecking ourselves by allowing sexual immorality into our lives. May we listen to the wisdom of God. These are not innocent, insignificant sins. These sins destroy marriages. These sins destroy children. These sins destroy homes. These sins destroy your soul. These sins destroy you. Do not be deceived. You are enslaved to something that you are unable to will yourself into stopping. Your heart is captured by lust, and you do not have control over your flesh any longer. You are no longer joined to the Lord when you are involved in sexual immorality, and you are hurting yourself. Flee sexual immorality! What things in your life need to change in order for you to walk in purity and holiness? What changes to your schedule, relationships, media consumption, etc., would help you to "flee sexual immorality" (1 Corinthians 6:18)? Spend time praying for yourself. Confess what needs to be confessed and repent. If you don't need to confess any sin, then pray for protection from the Lord so you don't fall into sexual temptations. Finally, pray for your Church family that they may live holy lives set apart for God's service.