



TEACH ME
THE BIBLE PODCAST

STUDY GUIDE

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CHAPTER

5

1 CORINTHIANS

Divisions in the Church



1 Corinthians: Chapter 5

If you are new to the Story of the Bible or would like to review the Story:
Listen to the following TMTB Podcasts:

The Story: Understanding the “Big Story” (30 min)

Old Testament: Walk Through the Broad Story (27 min)

Timeline: New Testament Beginnings (35 min)

Letters: Paul’s Writing to the Churches–Part 1 (30 min)

REVIEW

Paul ends his discussion in chapter 4 with these words, “Now some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you. But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the word of those who are arrogant but their power. For the kingdom of God does not consist in word but in power. What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?” Remember, there are divisions in the church at Corinth and Paul is under “examination.” In other words, the Corinthians are judging Paul. Instead, they ought to fear that Paul might judge them. And, they ought to be judging themselves. In fact, their inability to judge themselves correctly will be spelled out in chapters 5 and 6. Chapter 5 begins Paul’s correction of the problems in the midst of the Corinthian church.



1 Corinthians: Chapter 5

MONDAY

Listen to the Chapter 5 podcast.

TUESDAY

In 1 Corinthians 5:1 Paul introduces his first charge against the “immorality” (Greek noun: porneia) that is present in the Corinthian church. This porneia will be a main subject in chapters 5 and 6 (used 14x in the book, cf. 5:1 (2x), 9, 10, 11; 6:9, 13, 15, 16, 18 (2x); 7:2; and 10:8 (2x)).

Read these verses and see if it helps you track Paul’s argument through this section.

WEDNESDAY

Paul’s goal for the church of Corinth is repentance from their impurity, immorality, and sensuality. Repentance follows mourning.

Read 2 Corinthians 12:19-13:14.

Does this chapter make sense to you?

Do you understand what Paul is saying and why he is saying it to the Corinthians?

At this point in your study of 1 Corinthians, Paul’s argument to the Corinthians should begin to make sense. Keep reminding yourself that these letters (1 and 2 Corinthians) were written to a specific people in a specific church dealing with specific problems. Thus, the language that Paul uses is consistent throughout all of his dealings with them. This reminder will help you in your desire to understand 1 Corinthians.



1 Corinthians: Chapter 5

THURSDAY

Go back and read chapter 1-5 again.

Remember, Paul wants the Corinthians to be “of the same mind,” that is, the mind of Christ.

How are their actions, which Paul is addressing in chapters 5 and 6 at odds with the body of Christ and the mind of Christ?

In fact, their “arrogance” is a problem and evidence that they are at odds with the mind of Christ.

Also read 1 Corinthians 4:6, 18, 19; 5:2; 8:1; and 13:4 again.

Do you see the connections?

What are the Corinthians arrogant about?

Should their response to these things be arrogance? How about yourself?

Does their need to be any corrections in your thinking?

FRIDAY

Connect Paul’s argument in chapter 5.

How do verses 1-5 of chapter 5 relate to verses 6-13.

Also, how do Paul’s words in chapter 5 relate to 11:17-34? Do you see the connections?

As you listen to the podcasts in the coming weeks, keep seeking to follow the flow of Paul’s argument. Read ahead and see if you can start to make sense of it on your own. The Corinthians are judging both Paul and themselves incorrectly. In doing so, this has brought them under the judgment of the Lord.