Surrendered Hearts: Not Your Own

HELPFUL HINTS TO LEAD YOUR GROUP



# Discussion Questions with Cody Dickerson

#### Warm Up

- What's something you've had a hard time letting go of? It could be big or small.
- Have you ever borrowed something that came with very clear instructions
   What was it, and how did that go?
- If someone looked at your daily routine, what would they say "owns" your time?
- What's something small you "own" that you take really good care of? Why?

### <u>Dig-In</u>

- In I Corinthians 6:18, Paul says, "Flee from sexual immorality." Why do you think Paul says to "flee from", not fight or manage, sexual sin? What does that urgency tell us about its impact on our souls or hearts?
- Paul says in verse 18 that sexual sin is different from other sins because it
  affects our own bodies. Why do you think Paul distinguishes it from "other
  sins" that are outside the body? Have you experienced or seen how sexual
  sin can leave deeper marks? Emotionally, spiritually, or relationally?
- In I Corinthians 6:19, Paul says your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. What would we change if we really believed our bodies didn't belong to us?
- In verse 20, Paul says, "You are not your own; you were bought with a price." How does the truth that you were "bought with a price" affect the way you see your value and identity? What does it mean to surrender because God loves you, not because He's trying to control you?
- In I Corinthians 7:21–22, Paul reminds slaves that even if they are in bondage, they are "the Lord's freed people." How does this challenge the way we think about freedom and identity in Christ?

- How can someone be both "free in the Lord" and "Christ's slave" at the same time?
- Paul says in I Corinthians 7:23, "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings."
   What kinds of things or people do we sometimes let ourselves become enslaved to? What does it mean to live free, yet surrendered?
- In I Peter I:18–19, Peter reminds believers that they were redeemed not with silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ. How does it shape your understanding of your worth to know that Jesus paid for you with His blood? Why do you think Peter compares perishable things like silver and gold with something eternal?

#### Wrap Up

 What would it look like this week to live as someone fully redeemed, free from shame but fully surrendered? Is there a place in your life where you're still living like you belong to yourself instead of to Christ? What would change if you gave that over to Him?

#### Ask

Lord, what part of me am I still claiming as mine? What would it look like to give that over to You?

## What you need to know: the Corinthians

1 Corinthians was written to a church community that Paul knew well. Corinth was a major port city in the ancient world with several temples, making it a huge economic-religious center in the Roman world. Paul strategically traveled there as a missionary, spending about a year and a half getting to know the people and telling them about Jesus. Many people there became followers and eventually formed the first church community in the city (Acts 18).

After Paul left to start churches in other cities, he soon began receiving reports of conflict at the church in Corinth. The people were facing all kinds of problems, so Paul wrote this letter to offer guidance, teaching, and encouragement.

The book of 1 Corinthians is broken up into five main parts and a final greeting. The five sections correspond to the five problems Paul addresses, and the letter reads like a collection of short essays. In each section, Paul defines a problem and responds to it with some part of the Gospel story, illustrating how these church members were not actually acting or living out what they said they believed. This pattern of a problem followed by a Gospel solution shows us how Paul is teaching the Corinthians to think as Christians. Following Jesus means developing the skill of seeing all areas of life and relationships through the lens of the Gospel.

This Info-and other great Information like It Is available on <u>bibleproject.com</u>. Fantastic resource! They break down BIG Ideas we find In the Scriptures for modern folks.