

## LIFE GROUP GUIDE - Week Starting Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March

### 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

#### This Week's BIG IDEA

Having dealt with a big issue of sin that the Corinthians were ignoring in chapter 5, Paul now turns his attention to the fact that the Corinthians are making a big issue of relatively minor disputes. How often is this true of us? How often do we let small issues create division in the church or create barriers in our own levels of trust and/or wholehearted commitment to the body of Christ – the local church? Paul leads the Corinthians and us to restoration by challenging our heart attitudes and reminding us of our identity in Christ.

#### Focussing on God

Receiving forgiveness and apply forgiveness to others is a foundation of our faith. This foundation is laid on the bedrock of God's grace expressed through the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Spend some time thanking God for his grace and kindness towards us. You could use this song to help focus your time if it helps.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPQKj2Zptr0>

#### Getting into Scripture

Read through 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 together as a group.

In what ways was the Corinthians propensity to take fellow believers to court:

- Damaging unity?
- Getting in the way of the gospel?
- Damaging the reputation of the church?

How would Paul like the Corinthians to behave when someone upsets them?

Why do you think Paul tells the Corinthians that they have already lost, even before they get to court?

Read through John 17:20-26

- What is Jesus' desire for his church?
- Why is unity so important for Jesus?
- What should be the result of unity in the church?

#### Time to Pray

Take some time in personal reflection to give space for the Holy Spirit to highlight any individuals or situations where you need to apply forgiveness. If you are able, and if it is appropriate, encourage one another to be open and honest about these situations so that others can pray for the strength to forgive and for healing.

Given that Unity is missional spend some time praying for those in your sphere of influence that you would love God to bless in these coming weeks.