

# The Lord Is for the Body

*1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

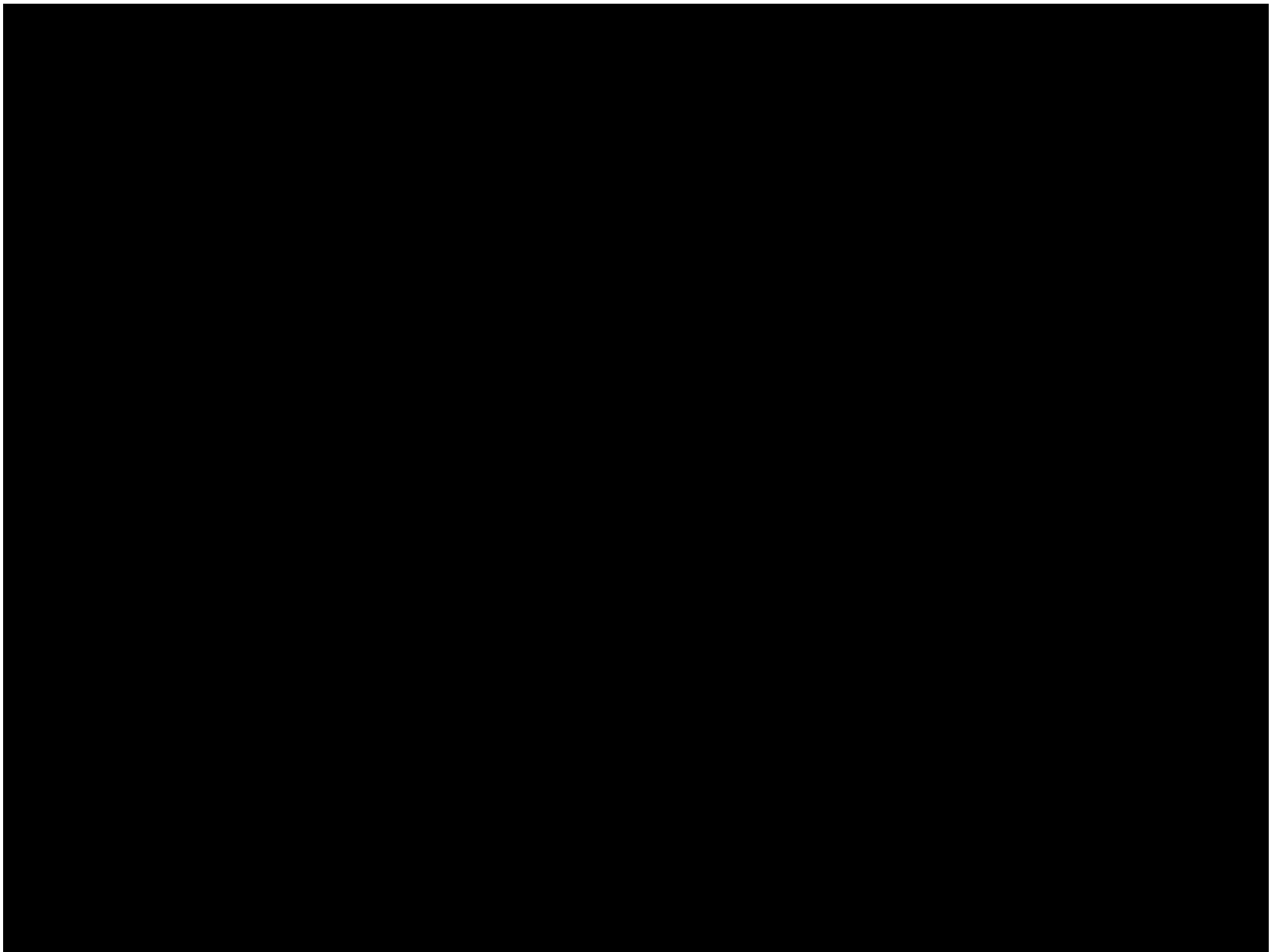
(1 Cor. 6:12-20) 12 “Everything is permissible for me,” but not everything is beneficial. “Everything is permissible for me,” but I will not be mastered by anything. 13 “Food is for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will do away with both of them. However, the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 God raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. 15 Don’t you know that your bodies are a part of Christ’s body? So should I take a part of Christ’s body and make it part of a prostitute? Absolutely not! 16 Don’t you know that anyone joined to a prostitute is one body with her? For Scripture says, **The two will become one flesh.** 17 But anyone joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. 18 Flee sexual immorality! Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the person who is sexually immoral sins against his own body. 19 Don’t you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with your body.

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*1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

# Theology of Creation (Gen. 1-3)

- Everything God made is good (1:31)
- God made humanity in His image (1:27)
- Being in God's image is a status & responsibility to expand His order (1:26-28)
- God wishes to rest/dwell with humanity (Ch. 2)
- Maleness & femaleness are embodied, binary, & essential to imaging God (1:26-28; 2:24-26)
- Sin separates humanity from God (3:22-24)
- Sin brings sociological & physical pain (3:16-18)
- Sin curses creation (3:17-18; cf. Rom. 8:20-22)
- Sin brings broken bodies & death (2:17; 3:19;)



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This week’s challenge: find something that is threatening to master you and fast from it.

1 Corinthians 6:12

“Everything is permissible for me,” but not everything is beneficial. “Everything is permissible for me,” but I will not be mastered by anything. (1 Cor. 6:12)

This week’s challenge: find something that is threatening to master you and fast from it.

Jesus responded, “Truly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin.”

(John 8:34)

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1 Corinthians 6:13-14; cf. 1 Cor. 15:12-58



“The Greeks always looked down  
on the body. There was a  
proverbial saying, ‘The body is a  
tomb.’ Epictetus said, ‘I am a poor  
soul shackled to a corpse.’”

Barclay, *The Letters to the Corinthians* p. 62

“You don’t have a soul. You are a soul.  
You have a body.”

- C.S. Lewis

“You don’t have a soul. You are a soul.  
You have a body.”

- C.S. Lewis *never said this*  
*(and it’s not Biblical)*

Christianity is almost one of the only great religions which thoroughly approves of the body --- which believes that matter is good, that God Himself once took on a human body, that some kind of body is going to be given to us in Heaven and is going to be an essential part of our happiness, our beauty and our energy.

- C.S. Lewis *Mere Christianity* p.98

“Food is for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will do away with both of them. However, the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. (CSB)

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1 Corinthians 6:13    yellow=Corinthians & Blue=Paul

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## “the Lord is for the body” means...

- Jesus sympathizes w/our weak bodies (Heb. 4:15-16):
  - Physical pain (Mark 8:31; 15:15-37)
  - Emotional pain (Jhn. 11:35; Mtt. 26:38)
  - shame (Isa. 52:14; 53:2-3; Mtt. 27:29-31, 38-43)
  - body dysphoria (2 Cor. 5:21)
  - struggling to obey God's will (Mtt. 26:39)
- death will be destroyed & it is not the end of bodily existence (1 Cor. 15:12-58; Rom. 8:18-25).
- God is with us now even in our brokenness (1 Cor. 6:15-20)

15 Don't you know that your bodies are a part of Christ's body? So should I take a part of Christ's body and make it part of a prostitute? Absolutely not!

16 Don't you know that anyone joined to a prostitute is one body with her? For Scripture says, **The two will become one flesh.** 17 But anyone joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

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1 Corinthians 6:15-17 cf. Zech. 2:11

Our bodies are not are not united  
to Christ theoretically. They are  
now members of Christ's body.





**Flee sexual immorality!** Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the person who is sexually immoral sins against his own body.

1 Corinthians 6:18

We must run for our lives from  
the broken manifestations of  
God's design for sex.

- Ben Keehn on May 25<sup>th</sup> 2025

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# 1 Cor. 6: Don't you know that...

your bodies are a part of Christ's body? (v15)

that anyone joined to a prostitute is one body with her? (v16)

that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? (v19)



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