

1ST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS

Christian Answers to Real Life

PROTECTING AND PRESERVING PURITY

In 1 Corinthians 5, Paul challenges the church to confront sin in order to protect, preserve, and promote the purity of the church.

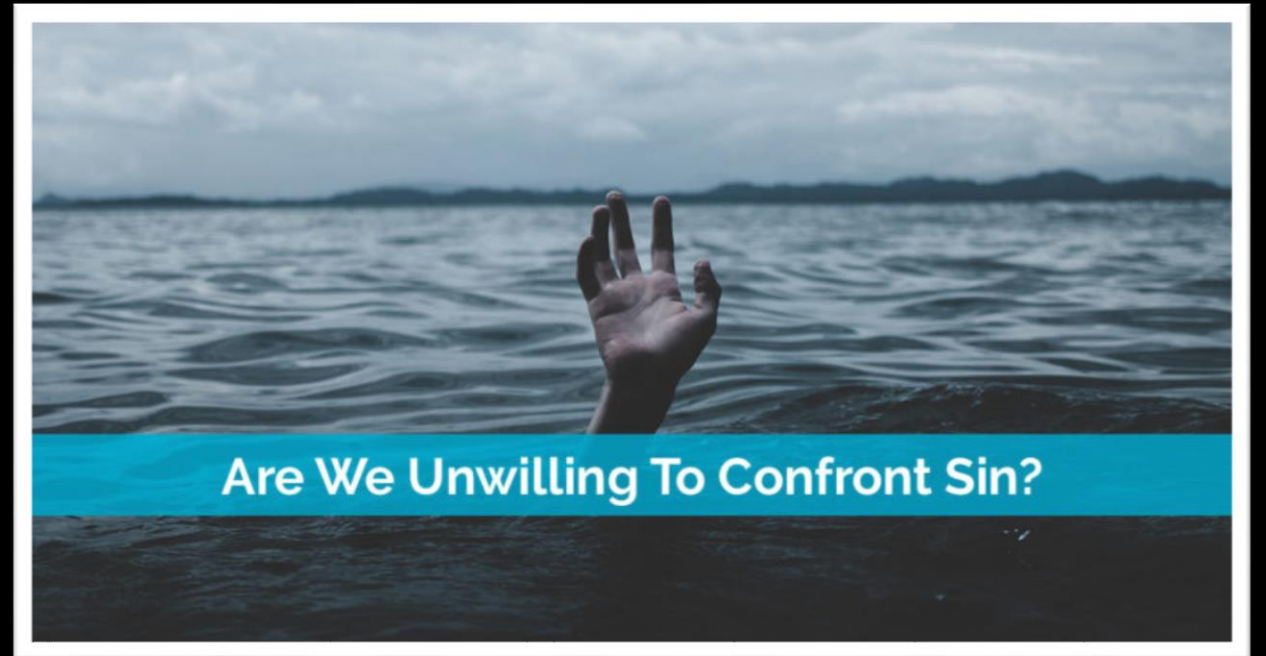
Here, Paul is addressing the important and delicate question: “What should we do when a Christian chooses to persist in a life of sin?”



FACING SIN HEAD ON

1 Corinthians 5:1-2 (CEV)

¹ I have heard terrible things about some of you. In fact, you are behaving worse than the Gentiles. A man is even sleeping with his own stepmother. ² You are proud, when you ought to feel bad enough to chase away anyone who acts like that.



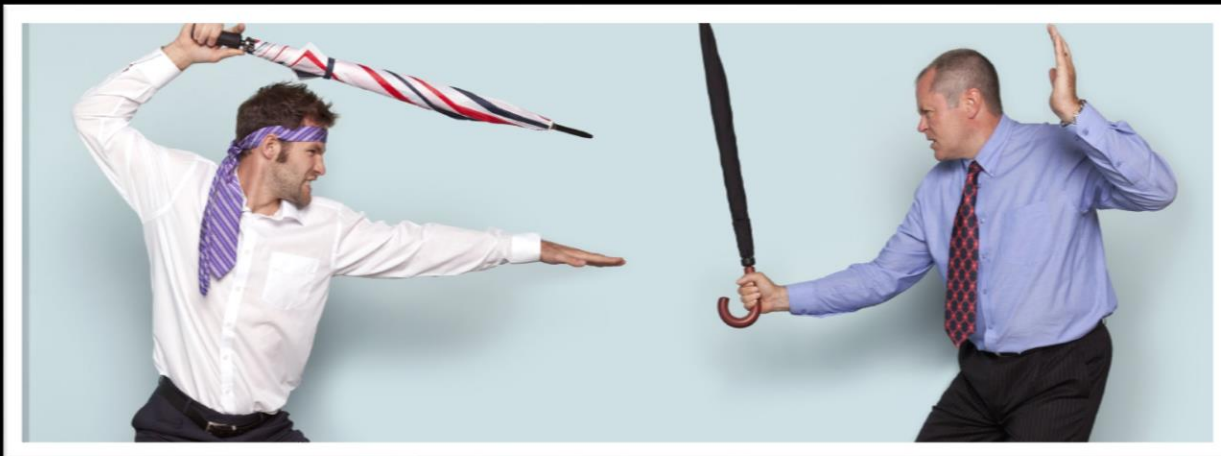
Are We Unwilling To Confront Sin?

CONFRONTING SIN

How NOT to do it!



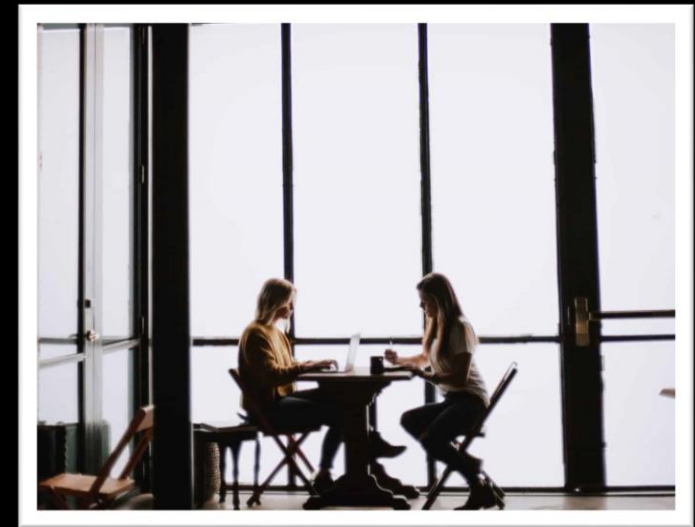
Here is a better way...



DISCIPLINE THAT RESTORES

1 Corinthians 5:3-4 (CEV)

³⁻⁴ I am with you only in my thoughts. But in the name of our Lord Jesus I have already judged this man, as though I were with you in person. So when you meet together and the power of the Lord Jesus is with you, I will be there too. ⁵ You must then hand that man over to Satan. His body will be destroyed, but his spirit will be saved when the Lord Jesus returns.



DISCIPLINE THAT RESTORES

Galatians 6:1 (ESV)

¹ I Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

Don't Tolerate

Remember the goal of confrontation or discipline is restoration, not destruction.

SIN IS CONTAGIOUS!

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (CEV)

⁶ Stop being proud! Don't you know how a little yeast can spread through the whole batch of dough? ⁷ Get rid of the old yeast!

Then you will be like fresh bread made without yeast, and that is what you are.

Our Passover lamb is Christ, who has already been sacrificed. ⁸ So don't

celebrate the festival by being evil and sinful, which is like serving bread made with yeast. **Be pure and truthful and celebrate**

by using bread made without yeast.



PROMOTING PURITY

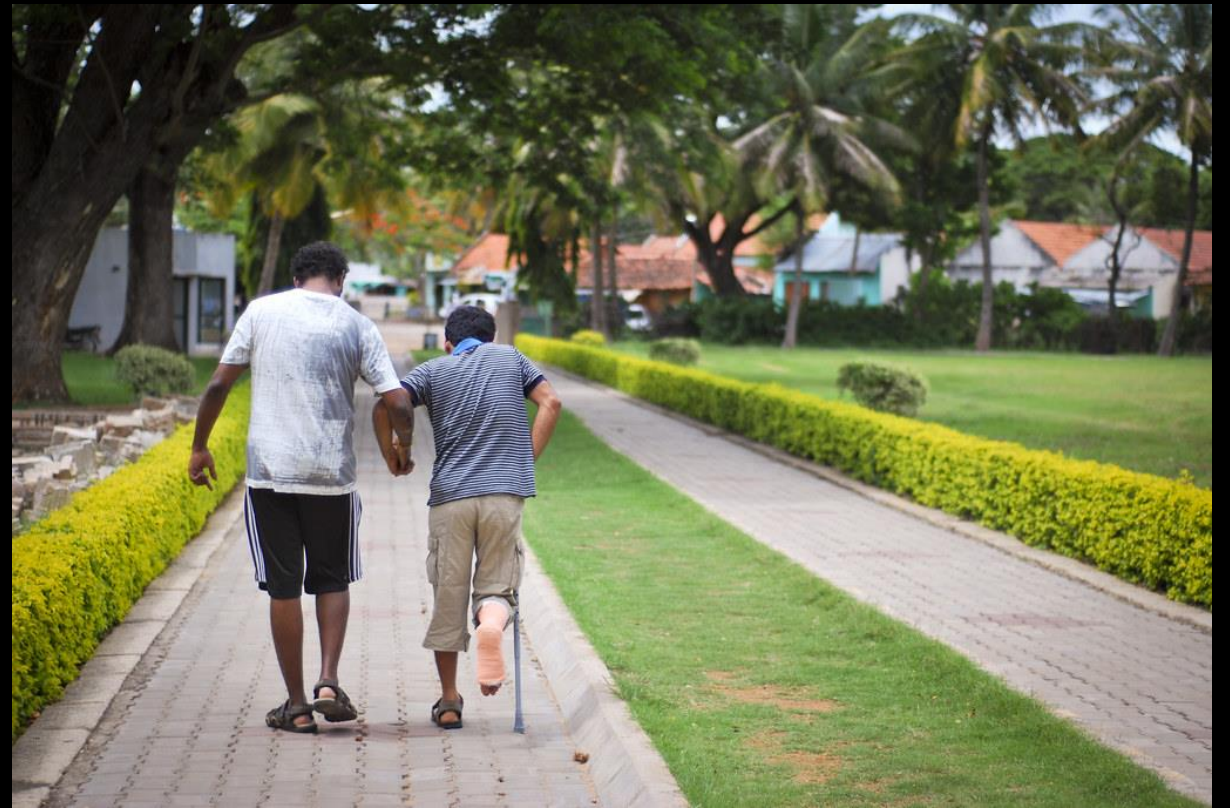
1 Corinthians 5:9-13

⁹ In my other letter I told you not to have anything to do with immoral people. ¹⁰ But I wasn't talking about the people of this world. You would have to leave this world to get away from everyone who is immoral or greedy or who cheats or worships idols. ¹¹ I was talking about your own people who are immoral or greedy or worship idols or curse others or get drunk or cheat. Don't even eat with them! ¹² Why should I judge outsiders? Aren't we supposed to judge only church members? ¹³ God judges everyone else. The Scriptures say, "Chase away any of your own people who are evil."

HELPING THE HURTING

The Bible teaches us to be patient when people who do not follow Christ live in sin.

Yet, when Christians sin we are to be proactive in **discipling** (teaching) and **disciplining** (correcting), to restore wholeness and holiness.



A Healthy Church

Ephesians 4:14-16

¹⁴ We must stop acting like children. We must not let deceitful people trick us by their false teachings, which are like winds that toss us around from place to place. ¹⁵ Love should always make us tell the truth. Then we will grow in every way and be more like Christ, the head ¹⁶ of the body. Christ holds it together and makes all of its parts work perfectly, as it grows and becomes strong because of love.

Living TRUTH

We confront sin
to RESTORE, not
to punish



THE LETTERS OF PAUL

Living TRUTH

We confront sin
to prevent the
spread of this
contagious
disease!



THE LETTERS OF PAUL

Living TRUTH

Discipleship and
discipline go
hand and hand
to promote
wholeness and
holiness.

Healthy
Church



THE LETTERS OF PAUL