

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## *Awkward*

### 1 Corinthians 5:1-8

The truth in God's word cannot be withheld because of awkwardness; souls are on the line!

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#### 1 Corinthians 5:1

It is **actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you**, and of a kind that even pagans do not tolerate: A man is sleeping with his father's wife.

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This is fact not just an accusation

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Ok let's just get it right out there in the open to begin with.

God created sex!

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God blesses sexual relations between a husband and wife.

Sexual relations outside of the oneness of a husband and wife are described in scripture as sexual immorality.

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- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
  - Romans 1:24
  - Exodus 20:14 & 17
  - Leviticus 18
  - **Matthew 5:28**
  - Deuteronomy 27:20-23 & Leviticus 18:7-8
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**Deuteronomy 27:20-23** "Cursed is anyone who sleeps with his father's wife, for he dishonors his father's bed." Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

**Leviticus 18:7-8** "Do not dishonor your father by having sexual relations with your mother. She is your mother; do not have relations with her.

"Do not have sexual relations with your father's wife; that would dishonor your father.

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Keep in mind this letter is **to the church** not to the city of Corinth or to those living outside of Christian living.

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#### 1 Corinthians 5:1

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of **a kind that even pagans do not tolerate**: A man is sleeping with his father's wife.

This is not even something the pagans do!

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#### 1 Corinthians 5:2

And you are **proud!** Shouldn't you rather have gone into mourning and have put out of your fellowship the man who has been doing this?

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Paul is addressing the foundational problem. The church is proud of this person and their sin. They boast of this acceptance rather than follow God's clear direction.

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I am glad this was written to the churches in Corinth and not us today...

We have problems when we call evil good!

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#### Isaiah 5:20-21

Woe to those who call evil good  
and good evil,  
who put darkness for light  
and light for darkness,  
who put bitter for sweet  
and sweet for bitter.

Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes  
and clever in their own sight.

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The church in Corinth had been so busy fighting about who they follow, about baptism, and other things that they stopped looking at their own internal corruption.

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Matthew 7

Matthew 23

We cannot boast about our upright lifestyle when we live in pride of our sin.

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Luke 9:23-26

**23 Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. 25 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? 26 **Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.****

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**Revelation 2:18-29**

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

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There is no good to be found in celebrating open sin.

**1 Corinthians 5:3-4**

For my part, even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. As one who is present with you in this way, I have already passed judgment in the name of our Lord Jesus on the one who has been doing this. So when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present,

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**1 Corinthians 5:5**

hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

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We are seeing the result of un-repentance.

It comes down to we have to remove the sickness that is damaging and spreading to the whole body.

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"One bad apple."

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**1 Corinthians 5:6-8**

Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? 7 Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 8 Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

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Paul goes in on V6-8 to compare this spread of the infection to that of the way yeast works.

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Not addressing the sin in the church makes the church which is the Body of Christ like the Pharisees that show greatness on the outside yet have a nasty untreated infection within.

Not addressing sin in the church mis-represents the truth of Jesus Christ and can become infectious and spreads to others.

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Paul does not say you **should** get rid of the yeast; he states it as a fact. That the church has no business re-introducing it into who they are now, which is a new batch because of what Christ has done. Re-introducing it will allow it to spread and contaminate the whole body.

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Sin is a toxin!

What toxins are you trying to put in Christ's body that cannot be there?

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It is ever acceptable to take the morals of our culture and society and use them to shape the Bride of Christ or even who God is?

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The church of Corinth struggled with knowing how to deal with this awkward sinful relationship, but God's word shows us the gravity of living in prideful sin and what MUST happen to it.

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As His Church, His Bride, His Body we have the responsibility to honor Him and His Word in private and in public. We are a light to our community and neighbors. Being genuine and authentic. Without sexual immorality. Otherwise all we can expect is to be cut off and removed by His judgment.  
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We are made new in Christ, we are set free from the bondage of sin. Live in His freedom!