

God's Word Regarding Immorality

1 Corinthian 5

There are two
serious issues here

- 1) The man's sin
- 2) The church's attitude toward sin

The church's attitude
toward sin
should be mourning
not arrogance

Jas 4:7-10 ESV Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2Co 12:21 ESV I fear that when I come again my God may humble me before you, and I may have to mourn over many of those who sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual immorality, and sensuality that they have practiced.

The church's wrong attitude
toward sin has
eternal consequence
for the man

1Co 6:9-11 ESV Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

The act of removal should include efforts toward restoration

Gal 6:1 ESV 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.

The act of removal should include efforts toward restoration

Jas 5:19-20 ESV My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

2Co 2:6-11 ESV For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, 7 so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. 8 So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him. 9 For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in everything. 10 Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, 11 so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.

The church's wrong attitude
toward sin negatively impacts
the whole church

Like yeast in dough

The church has a moral
obligation to make judgements
inside the church

Summary

The church must embrace God's Word Regarding Immorality (not only its definition -- but how to deal with it)

- To NOT do so has eternal consequence in the lives of individuals (not inherit the kingdom)
- To NOT do so negatively impacts the life of the whole church
- In this sense the church must make judgements (vs 3 and vs 12)

Caution

Paul was not setting the church on a
witch hunt

Caution

Jesus gives us a certain process in
Matt 18

Caution

When disciplinary action is taken, efforts should be made by those who are spiritual to restore

Closing

Is there a sin the LORD is calling you to repent of?

What is your attitude regarding sin? Have you embraced God's Word, or the moral relativism of our culture?