

# SMALL GROUP GUIDE

## 1 CORINTHIANS: BEING GOD'S PEOPLE

The Church is a complex and often messy place with people at different stages in their walk with Jesus. Seeing every part of life (individually and together) through the Gospel lens of a whole new life in Christ sounds good in theory, but in reality, living what you say you believe is a lifelong process... This is a letter that relates to each of us grappling with how to be God's people, as well as to us as a church family grappling with how to be a community that practices being God's people together, living in the tension between the Biblical text and our context today.



### WHEN YOU MEET:

Fortnight starting Sunday 20 August

**TESTIMONY TIME:** Have one person in the group share what they've been learning about Jesus.

**PRAY:** Share praise points and pain points, and think about who else around us might need prayer (e.g. our Mission Partners and those they are reaching)

**READ:** 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

**DISCUSS:** *The general questions are on the next page...*

1. Paul lists a number of behaviours observed in wider society. What do you notice about this list?
2. Are all sins as bad as each other?
3. What's the difference between sinning as a "wrongdoer" and sinning as a Christian?
4. Scott said, "You don't go to Hell for committing any of these sins just as much as you don't go to Heaven for not committing them... Similarly, you aren't saved because you got your sexual orientation sorted out and have no gender identity issues." On what basis is someone actually saved?
5. Re-read 1 Corinthians 6:11. What does Paul understand about the process of going from being a 'wrongdoer' to being a child of God? And what does this mean for us in our daily lives?
6. "Sexual immorality" (see verses 9 & 13) - 'pornea' - means any sexual activity outside of the covenantal framework of marriage between a man and a woman. If you have time, discuss why you think the Biblical framework for sex and marriage is so challenging for people today.

**PRAY:** Take 10 minutes to work through Examen together. You may want to allow a few moments, afterwards, for people to share what happened. Find more information and audio files on the website:

<https://grlc.org.au/2020/10/08/daily-examen/>



## **GENERAL QUESTIONS:**

1. What especially challenges or inspires you in this passage and why?
2. What does this passage reveal about being God's people in Australia today?
3. What does this passage say about finding and sustaining unity as God's people?
4. What does this passage reveal about identity or purpose as God's people?
5. How does this passage lead you to a greater reliance on the Holy Spirit?

