

Life Group Guide 2 Cor 6:11–7:1 “Mixed Signals”
For the Sermon Preached on Sun Mar 17 & For Use in Life Groups through Sun Mar 24

Icebreaker Question

Can you remember a time when you were in a place or a situation where you were really out of place? How did you navigate that situation? How did it go?

Pastor Richard’s Sermon Outline

- I. Acknowledge the Problem (vv. 11-13).**
 - a. We must be honest when we deal with the things of God (v. 11).
 - b. We are in the world as a witness, but we must be separate from the world in our actions (vv. 12-13; Jam. 1:13-16).
 - i. The Calculated Sin - Desire (v. 14a; Jam. 1:14)
 - ii. The Casual Sin - Deception (vv. 14b-16a; Jam. 1:14)
 - iii. The Concealed Sin - Defiance (v. 17a; Jam. 1:15)
 - iv. The Careless Sin - Death (v. 17b; Jam. 1:15-16)
- II. Avoid the Situation (v. 14).**
 - a. The purpose of the prohibition (v. 14).
 - b. Two reasons for a life of separation (vv. 14-16).
 - i. It is the sensible thing to do.
 - ii. It is the desirable thing to do.
- III. Attack the Sin (vv. 17-7:1).**
 - a. Separation (v. 17)
 - b. Cleansing (7:1a)
 - c. Holiness (7:1b)

2 Cor 6:11–13

Read 2 Cor 6:11–13: Observation:

1. What does Paul say he has done with the Corinthians in v. 11a? How does Paul feel about the Corinthian according to v. 11b?
2. According to v. 12, who has not restricted the Corinthians? What are the Corinthians restricted by?
3. What does Paul ask the Corinthians to do in v. 13?

Interpretation:

4. Why is Paul so concerned about how the Corinthians feel about him? What does it say about Paul (and the gospel) that Paul feels so warmly toward the Corinthians after all they’ve been through? What can we learn from this?

Application:

5. Review the progression of sin in James 1:13-16 (note the sermon outline above). What are some helpful spiritual exercises to break this pattern in our own lives?

2 Cor 6:14–16

Read 2 Cor 6:14–16: Observation

6. What livestock illustration does Paul use in v. 14?

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7. With whom are we not supposed to be “yoked” in v. 14?
8. In vs. 14-16, Paul uses five terms to describe this world and its way of thinking. What does he say?
9. In vs. 14-16, Paul uses five terms to describe God’s people. What does he say?

Interpretation:

10. In vs. 14-16, Paul gives us five comparisons to discuss the relationship of God’s people to the world and its way of thinking. What do each of these comparisons mean? What do they tell us about ourselves and about the world?

Application:

11. This week memorize 2 Corinthians 6:14 - **"Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?"** and quote this to yourself when you need to be reminded to be separate from the world.

12. What are some practical examples of being “unequally yoked” in our lives? What are the negative consequences of these ungodly “partnerships”? What is God trying to protect us from by warning us against these relationships?

2 Cor 6:16–7:1

Read 2 Cor 6: Observation

13. How does God describe his relationship to his people in v. 16? Where does this quote come from?
14. In vs. 17, what does God call his people to do? Where does this quote come from?
15. In v. 18, what glorious truth does God repeat? Where does this quote come from?
16. What does Paul call us to do in light of Christ’s goodness to us in 2 Corinthians 7:1?

Interpretation:

17. In 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1, God uses vivid language to describe his relationships with his people. Based on what you’ve read in 1-2 Corinthians, how is it possible for God to have this relationship with us? How do we live in light of this relationship according to 7:1?

Application:

18. In his sermon, Pastor Richard discussed three ways to attack sin in our lives. Review these (see above). What practical advice would you share with your group for putting these into practice?
19. What are some of the practical challenges to being “separate from the world” as God commands (v. 17) in modern America? How can we better obey God in this area? Be specific.