



Part 3: *Becoming Who You Are*

Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

-- James the brother of Jesus

For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want.

-- The Apostle Paul

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.

-- The Apostle Peter

The Apostle Paul makes clear that the church has a responsibility to rebuke, correct, and restore those in the fellowship who claim to be believers but live like nonbelievers.

-- Linda K. Taylor, *Life Application New Testament Commentary*

Paul is not in the business of simply baptizing the cultural values of Roman society. Paul was attempting to set up a *COUNTER*culture with a set of values often at odds with that of the larger society.

-- Ben Witherington III, *Conflict & Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*

It is love's obligation for us to reflect with one another about our moral performance. In fact, one must wonder whether there can be any real community if people do not care about how each other behaves.

-- J. Paul Sampley, *The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary*

Christ has died for us not simply to give us passage to heaven but to re-create us in his own image, so that both individually and corporately we may express the character of God by the way we live.

-- Gordon D. Fee, *The New International Commentary on the New Testament*

The Corinthian Christians may have been treating their Christian freedom as a licence to do as they liked. Paul's strong response teaches a very practical lesson – church discipline must sometimes be administered for the benefit of the church as well as for the correction of the person concerned.

-- Dachollom Datiri, *Africa Bible Commentary*

In all of Paul's letters no instruction speaks more forcefully about the seriousness of sin, the holiness of God's people, and their corporate standing before him than this passage, which is the longest text in the New Testament on the subject of church discipline.

-- D.A. Carson, *Pillar New Testament Commentary*

For many today, holiness is a private matter between the individual and God. But for Paul, holiness and piety, though surely grounded in individuals and in each person's behaviour, are community concerns.

-- J. Paul Sampley, *The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary*

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

-- James the brother of Jesus