1 Corinthians

Chapter 10

Warning!

**Lesson Objectives**

* Understand the importance and blessing of learning from the sins of Israel/our own past sins
* With believing hearts, appreciate the gift of Jesus’ true body and blood in the Lord’s Supper

**Worship** (CW:282:1)

A: Lord, open now my heart to hear,

**B: And through your Word to me draw near.**

A: Let me your Word e’er pure retain;

**B: Let me your child and heir remain.**

**Before We Begin**

At your tables: Think about what kind of warnings you get when you look at your own history. What lessons have you learned from your past mistakes at the following ages?

* Preschool
* Grade school
* High School/College

**Warnings From Israel’s History (10:1-13)**Paul uses some out of the ordinary phrases:

“Baptized into Moses” – God “baptized” them into Moses in the sea, which means God used the event at the Red Sea to fix Israel’s eyes on Moses as God’s representative.

“Spiritual food and drink” – This is manna and the water Moses struck from the rock at Kadesh in Numbers 20. They are called spiritual because they were supernaturally provided

“That rock was Christ”- God also gave them Christ, his angel, who accompanied them. It was Christ who provided both the water and the manna in the wilderness

1. God had given Israel so many blessings, but they misused them in a big way.
   1. Make a short list of some of the blessings God gives us at:
      1. Home  
         Food, clothing, shelter, opportunities to study God’s Word as a family
      2. Work  
         Ability to serve God at work, providing for our needs, chances to share our faith through our words and actions
      3. Church  
         Many different ways to grow in faith by coming into contact with the means of grace
   2. Describe how we, like Israel, struggle with misunderstanding/misusing those gifts.  
      We see ourselves as the source and winner of our physical blessings  
      We misuse our possessions with our offerings being an afterthought  
      We despise God’s Word when we fail to take advantage of opportunities at church
   3. Brainstorm ways we can keep those blessings in the proper perspective.

Make thanksgiving a priority in our prayers and conversations at home  
Stay in God’s Word continually at home, at work, at church

1. V. 6: “These things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.”Israel faced terrible consequences for their idolatry. Describe what the consequences, either earthly or spiritual, are for setting our hearts on the following idols:
   1. Money  
      Missing out on worship/Bible study  
      Greed taking over our hearts  
      Abusing relationships to gain more money/possessions
   2. Sports/Entertainment  
      Missing out on worship/Bible study  
      Relying on those things to provide true contentment, which is impossible  
      Teaching our kids a terrible lesson about the importance of God and his Word
   3. My own idea of happiness/desires  
      Led away from the only thing that will give us true peace in heaven  
      Our selfish desires can hurt others in our family as well  
        
      G Campbell Morgan: “[The element of desire] is the supreme thing in human life. It is always the beginning of defection.”
2. Verse 11: “These things…were written down as warnings for us.”
   1. What temptations are there when we see the sins of others?   
      Self-righteousness  
      Disregard those people as weaker than we are
   2. How does God intend it to benefit us when we see the sins of others in the Bible?  
      We are to learn from the generations who preceded us. To ignore or disdain hat former ages have to teach us about the wages of sin and the consequences of guilt is conceit and folly.
3. Paul talks about temptation in verses 11-13.
   1. Make a list of wrong ways we react to temptation.   
      Pride/thinking we’re strong enough on our own  
      Flirting with temptation  
      Becoming convinced temptation is too powerful and giving in
   2. Describe how you would explain Paul’s words in this section to a teenager.  
      The temptations of high school/college are not extraordinary; they’re different versions of what everyone experiences  
      Christians have withstood the very temptations you will encounter; they did that by the grace and power of God  
      God knows your strength and will not let temptation exceed it  
      God provides a way out  
      There is strength to be found among the body of believers at your congregation

**Idol Feasts and the Lord’s Supper (10:14-33)**

1. Defend your faith: Someone says to you, “I believe that the Lord’s Supper is a great thing. It’s a nice picture of what Jesus did for us. I can’t believe that you think that’s actually Jesus’ body and blood, though. That’s too weird.” How would you use verses 14-22 to respond?

When we drink the wine, we receive Christ’s blood  
When we eat the bread, we receive Christ’s body  
As we eat and drink the earthly elements, we also eat and drink the sacramental elements  
Paul stresses the close relationship, the sharing of both elements with each other  
When we participate in the Lord’s supper, we enter into the most intimate fellowship with Christ himself through receiving his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins  
We are also brought into the most intimate fellowship with one another. The sharing makes us one spiritual body.

1. Write down three things you know you have coming up this week. For each one, explain how you can carry it out in a way that glorifies God.

**Review:**

Thankfulness:

Sin:

Reminder:

New: