

1 Cor. 6:15-20 / The Temple”
What it means to be in relationship with God

"Your bodies are members of Christ"

- A relationship with God is a mystical union of God and the individual.

- Jesus explained it this way,

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."

- Those in relationship with God need to look at themselves and life differently.

- Jesus is the believer's "life blood." Grapes come from a grape vine and figs from a fig tree. (Luke 6:43-44)

"The one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him."

- The word, "join" means "to glue."

- It is the same word used when Jesus says, "*a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.*" (Mark 10:8)

- When people enter into relationship with God they become *one* with God. They do not become God, but they do experience a unity with Him

- This oneness is not simply of purpose or agreement; it means community, the commingling of identity, purpose, direction, and personhood.

- As in marriage, who I am entails an understanding of who my wife is. So in discipleship, the person I am necessitates an understanding of who God is.

- Where you go, God goes with you. - This is a comfort.

- It brings depth to Hebrews 13:5; "*I will never leave you; never will I forsake you.*"

- When you sin, you take Him along. - This is a shock.

- It brings new meaning to Matthew 28:20 - "*I am with you always ...*"

- This is the only way the "*world will believe that [God] send [Jesus].*" (John 17:21)

What is Paul Saying?

- He is not emphasizing the body, but reveling the presence of God in the believer.

- Because of God's presence, your actions, thoughts, and attitudes **are not your own**.

- There is no area of life outside of Him.

- There is the expectation that disciples will not cause God to live by their choices, but that they will live consistent with His.