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Central Congregational Church  
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”  
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## Of Lawsuits and Last Things

1 Corinthians 6:1-11  
Series: Following Jesus in the Real World

### Central Passage

**1 Corinthians 6:1–8 (ESV)** — **1** When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints? **2** Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? **3** Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! **4** So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? **5** I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, **6** but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? **7** To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? **8** But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

**Central Thought:** Our primary and ultimate affiliation is as citizens and agents of the kingdom of God with Jesus as our king, and our behavior and values should reflect that reality.

We are an eschatological people – learning to live in light of the “already – not yet” reality of God’s kingdom.

- Eschatology: the theological study of last things; death, judgement and the final destiny of the soul and humankind.

### Eschatological Realities...

- ❖ Our Calling: We will rule the world with king Jesus!

**Daniel 7:15–18 (NLT)** — **15** I, Daniel, was troubled by all I had seen, and my visions terrified me. **16** So I approached one of those standing beside the throne and asked him what it all meant. He explained it to me like this: **17** “These four huge beasts represent four kingdoms that will arise from the earth. **18** But in the end, the holy people of the Most High will be given the kingdom, and they will rule forever and ever.” (See also: All of Daniel 7)

**Revelation 5:9–10 (ESV)** — **9** And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, **10** and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

- ❖ Our Values: We sacrifice the temporary for the eternal!

**Mark 8:34–35 (ESV)** — **34** And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. **35** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it.

**Mark 10:21–22 (ESV)** — **21** And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” **22** Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

### Questions to Consider

- ❖ Do you understand and are you seeking to live in light of your high calling in Jesus Christ?
- ❖ Where are the places in your life where you are sacrificing the eternal for the temporary?