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Central Congregational Church  
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"  
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## Honoring God with Our Bodies

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Series: Following Jesus in the Real World

### Central Passage

*1 Corinthians 6:18–20 (ESV) — 18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*

**Central Thought:** We are called to honor God with our bodies because our whole being – body and soul – has been redeemed by Christ to once again be used for its original purpose – the glory of God and the good of our neighbors.

### Body Issues

- ❖ "Freedom" quickly becomes self-serving and often ends in slavery (addiction).

*1 Peter 2:16 (ESV) — 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.*

*2 Peter 2:19 (ESV) — 19 They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.*

- ❖ There is a mystical/spiritual dimension to sex that makes its misuse more egregious than other sins.

*Ephesians 5:31–32 (ESV) — 31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.*

- ❖ Our bodies were created – and redeemed – to be the very vessel of God's presence and purpose on earth.

*1 Corinthians 3:16–17 (ESV) — 16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.*

### Conclusions

- ❖ Negative: Flee sexual immorality! (vs. 18)

*Ephesians 5:5 (ESV) — 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.*

- ❖ Positive: Honor (glorify) God with your body! (vs. 20)

*1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (ESV) — 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*

## Questions to Consider

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