



**[guardrails]**  
“The Losses of Lawsuits”  
Pastor Bob Botsford

**Main Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

**Referenced Scripture:** Romans 13:1-7, Colossians 3:15, Daniel 7:21-22

**OPEN:**

1. What in particular spoke to you from Pastor Bob’s message?
2. In what way is it better to deserve honors and not have them here than to have them here and not deserve them?

**DIG DEEPER:**

1. In **1 Corinthians 6:1-8** we can find four strong reasons why it is wrong for Christians to bring legal action against one another. The first being it *dishonors the family (v.1)*. In what way do Christians disputing with one another make Christianity unattractive to non-believers?
2. In **verses 2-3** Paul is telling us that when Christians are suing each other we *dishonor the future*, and **Daniel 7:21-22** reminds us not to lose sight of the future. How then should we be practicing here what will be perfected in heaven?
3. *Dishonoring our fellowship* is another reason Christians should not be suing each other (**verses 4-8**). In what way do both sides lose even before a verdict is read?
4. **Verses 9-11** tells us that legal disputes between Christians also *dishonors forgiveness*, as we have been forgiven of many things. Why are we so challenged to extend the same forgiveness to others that has been extended to us, particularly the moment money is involved?
5. In **1 Corinthians 6:1-8** Paul clearly teaches that Christians ought to be able to settle their own disputes. How does understanding our identity in Christ become key to this success?

**REFLECT:**

1. In what way have you ever been tempted to take legal action against someone? What were your motives? What did you learn from that time?
2. Which of these “guardrails” has been the most difficult to maintain in your own life to keep you from “running off the road” in difficult circumstances- sharing the love, seeking to forgive, witness a difference, or honor Jesus? What is the Lord speaking to your heart about the need for these “guardrails” in your life?

**MEMORY VERSE:**

**Colossians 3:15**

*“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.”*

