Step Up

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Pastor Art Hunt November 9-10, 2013

Challenge #1: SINCE YOU ARE **END-TIMES PEOPLE**, STEP UP TO THAT IDENTITY AND SOLVE YOUR DIFFERENCES.

When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints? ²Or 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? ³Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! ⁴So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? 1 Corinthians 6:1-4 (English Standard Version)

"End-times people" live their lives with their eternal destiny always in mind.

One aspect of a believer's destiny: She or he will be involved in final judgments. (See also 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6.)

Challenge #2: SINCE YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY, STEP UP TO THAT IDENTITY AND ACT LIKE A FAMILY.

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, ⁶but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? ⁷To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? ⁸But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers! 1 Corinthians 6:5-8 (ESV)

Every relationship has the potential of becoming the place of transforming encounter with God.

Challenge #3: STEP UP AND BECOME WHO GOD SAYS YOU ARE.

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (ESV)

(See also Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-6.)

"You were washed" = Your sins were washed clean.

"You were sanctified" = God set you apart to live a godly life.

"You were justified" = God made you right with Himself through the blood of Jesus.