



- *The Middle Seat* -

**Ice-Breaker:**

**Have you ever been in a position to interact with people on subjects that made you feel uncomfortable? Like you knew it was wrong, but you didn't feel like you could say anything. How did you resolve the question mark in your spirit with the person or situation?**

**Discussion Questions:**

**Read 1 Cor. 5:1-3**

1. Why does the church typically insulate unrepentant members and sneer at unbelieving explorers of Christ?
2. Discuss this statement: *"When it comes to sin in the life of those of us who claim to love the Christ that died for our sins, we not only have a right, but we have a responsibility to judge that sin."*

**Read 1 Cor. 5:3-6**

3. In 1 Cor. 5:5 Paul says, "you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord." Does this command apply to the leadership of the church or the individuals that make up the church? Describe your answer.
4. Explain what you heard when PK said, "What you see in others is just a reflection of what you see in you."

**Read 1 Cor. 5:6-7**

5. Would you agree or disagree that most churches miss the meaning of this passage? Many believe this is a passage of excommunication intended to shun or cast out, but Paul meant it to demonstrate restoration. This process was to show that we love them, not to prove that we don't.

**Application:**

- **If there is a believer in your life, how would you live this passage out to restore them?**
- **How could you take this lesson and help someone who the church has wounded because of the misrepresentation of this passage?**