

“Law & Order: Special Victims Unit”

Sunday, June 9, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

BIG IDEA: Authentic Churches don’t hang out their “dirty laundry”.

*“Can it be that there is not one wise person among you who is able to arbitrate between fellow believers?”
1 Corinthians 6:5b (CSB)*

☞ **Authentic Christians know lawsuits reveal ignorant attitudes.** (v1-4)

- **Authentic Christians will judge the world.** (v1-2)
- **Authentic Christians will judge the angels.** (v3)
- **Authentic Christians must judge each other.** (v4)

☞ **Authentic Christians know lawsuits result in shameful disgrace.** (v5-8)

- **There is shame for NOT judging the way we should.** (v5)
- **There is shame for judging the way we shouldn’t.** (v6)
- **There is shame for living in defeat.** (v7-8)

☞ **Authentic Christians know lawsuits raise serious spiritual doubts.** (v9-11)

- **There is confusion about life without God.** (v9-10)

- **There is confusion about life in Jesus Christ.** (v11)

BIG IDEA: Authentic Churches don’t hang out their “dirty laundry”.

READ: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

THINK: Reflect on the implications of taking brothers and sisters to court, then ask yourself these questions: *What type of judge would you be: Hanging judge? Pushover? One known for creative sentencing? Why? What is going on here (v2-6)? Why do lawsuits cast a shadow over the Church? In the Kingdom, are certain people excluded, or will their sin be removed before entering (v9-10)? How does v11 fit the rest of the passage?*

DO: What attitudes underlying this situation do you see in yourself: Insistence on “my rights”, desire for revenge, desire to make things right, willingness to “bend the rules”, preferring my old way of life rather than following Christ? What steps can you take this week to clarify your position in Christ, especially to those outside the Family of Faith?