

The Sacred Local Church

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I Corinthians 3:16-23

I. Here are the details of this passage.

A. There is a huge _____ among Christian teachers on the interpretation of the word Temple. V. 17

1. It is referring to the _____ that a Christian is living in. This is usually based upon **I Corinthians 6:19-20**. Suicide is self-murder, and no one has the authority to commit suicide.

2. It is referring to the _____. This is based upon two details of this passage. The first is the use of the plural of “you”. The second detail is the entire context of the passage. Nowhere else in this passage does it refer to suicide. The passage is referring to divisions inside a local church. This passage is emphasizing the sacredness of the local church.

B. _____ is often at the center of local church disputes. The cure is humility. V. 18-20

C. Our _____ is based upon the promises of Jesus Christ and not in any human teacher. V. 21-23

II. How should we apply this passage to our life?

A. We must show _____ and _____ to those who have lost a loved one due to suicide. If anyone can save those who have committed this sin it is our Lord!

B. We must value the _____ of our local church.

C. We must settle _____ with one another within biblical parameters. See Matthew 18.

D. Our focus has got to be on the _____ of Jesus Christ and not any human constructed theology.