

May 13, 2018

**A reading from 1 Corinthians chapter 7 verses 17 through 20.  
You can find this reading on page 955 of your pew Bible.**

Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God. Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called.

**The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.***

**Please join me in praying Psalm 68.**

Leader: Sing to God, sing praises to his name;  
lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;

**People: his name is the Lord;  
exult before him!**

Leader: Father of the fatherless and protector of widows  
is God in his holy habitation.

**People: God settles the solitary in a home;  
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,  
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.**

Leader: O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God;  
sing praises to the Lord,

**People: to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;  
behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

Leader: Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel,  
and whose power is in the skies.

**People: Awesome is God from his sanctuary;  
the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and  
strength to his people.**

**All: Blessed be God!**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.**

***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***