



"And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world..." (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
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THE COURT RULES . . .

The U.S. Supreme Court decided on Monday, by a 5 to 4 vote, that religious rights extend even to some corporations under federal law. Hobby Lobby (an arts-and-crafts chain of stores) and Conestoga Wood Specialties (supplier of cabinet components) had challenged the requirement of the Affordable Care Act to provide insurance coverage for certain types of contraceptives. Specifically, the businesses objected on religious grounds to being forced to provide coverage for drugs and devices that interrupt a pregnancy after the egg has been fertilized, resulting in an abortion.

THE BIBLE SAYS . . .

Many of those who voiced objections to the court's ruling have decided that their bodies are their own, to do with as they please. Thus they want each and every type of contraceptive readily available for greatest freedom in that regard. Those who think this way are forgetting about the one who created their bodies: God. Indeed, our bodies are *not* our own, for we have been bought back from eternal destruction by the price Jesus paid on the cross.

1. Besides the issue of sexuality about which Paul speaks, what other behaviors are included in his declarations?
2. What are some behaviors that are legal but unwise according to 1 Corinthians 6:12?
3. What makes the behaviors of question 2 unwise?
4. What level of obligation do we have, if any, to evaluate the extent to which other people are or are not glorifying God by their behavior?
5. How can we stand for biblical principles without appearing to be mean-spirited?

—Charles R. Boatman

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