



## MISUSED SCRIPTURE, Week 5:

"Independence Day"

by Ryan Phipps, Lead  
Pastor

Matthew 10:34 (NIV)

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## READING:

Have a few people from your group read **1 Corinthians 10:6-13** out loud.

*6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.*

*11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.*

## DISCUSSION:

*The quotation Paul uses is from Exodus, chapter 32, which is the story of the Golden Calf that the people made when they got tired of waiting on Moses and God.*

- What does it mean that Paul is connecting the Corinthians, and all Christians, with the early Israelites in this way?
- How does the context of Paul referencing Exodus change the interpretation of this passage?

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

We have some great events planned for the summer! For a full list and to RSVP, please go to [forefrontnyc.com/summer](http://forefrontnyc.com/summer)

**7/6 - Relationship Workshop for Single Women**

**7/9 - Central Park Group Run**

**7/14 - Newcomers Dinner**

## WHY FOREFRONT?

Help us improve our outreach strategies - take this two question survey!

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*N.T. Wright says that the creation of the Golden Calf by the Israelites set up "a contest between YHWH and his apparent rivals, almost as a test of strength" and Paul cautions us not to "create situations where we are placing the Messiah on a trial of strength."*

- How do we do this in our lives?

*Paul was cautioning the Corinthians about falling back into their old patterns because those old patterns did not glorify God. He was not explicitly against the acts he describes as themselves, but the significance they carried.*

- How do you draw distinctions in your own life between old patterns that do not glorify God and new patterns that do?

## CLOSING PRAYER:

Close your group by praying this blessing.

*May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)*