



Corinthians

BE COUNTER-CULTURAL.

Next Steps Guide

February 19, 2023

1 Corinthians 8

"Corinthians" Week 7

1 Corinthians 8

1 Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. 2 If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. 3 But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. 4 Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” 5 For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— 6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. 7 However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 8 Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. 9 But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

- How could my _____ choice put a _____ between someone else and Christ?

10 For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? 11 And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. 12 Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

- Am I willing to sacrifice personal _____ in order to _____ a fellow believer?

Next Step:

- What does God want me to _____ for His sake?

"Be Conscientious."

Notes

For more in-depth sermon notes, download our church app by scanning the QR code on the back of this guide.

Go Deeper

1. In your groups this week, ask your members to read Chapter 8 of 1 Corinthians and apply the HEAR method contained in this guide. Discuss in your group any insights or takeaways members highlighted in this week's reading.

2. Questions for deeper conversations in your groups:

- How could individual choices become a roadblock between someone and Christ? Do I have any choices that I am making that could prevent someone else from seeing Jesus in me?
- Am I willing to give up something I have freedom in Christ to do in order to protect the faith/walk of someone in my life?

3. As you close your time together pray for the Holy Spirit to identify and eliminate any barriers in our own hearts that could be blocking someone around us from a relationship with Jesus.



Family Discussion Questions

Grove Kids

Ask your Preschool-Elementary Kids:

This week Pastor Bill talks about how to be conscientious. That is a big word for kiddos and can be confusing. It might help to replace it with dedicated or diligent.

Ask your kiddos this question: Have you ever thought you could help your friends who also believe in Jesus stay on the right path?

Talk with them about not tempting their friends to make mistakes and looking for ways to help those around them deepen their relationship with Jesus.

Grove Youth

Ask your Middle and High Schoolers:

Pastor Bill preached on being conscientious today. More specifically he talked about the idea of us not doing certain things, not because they are a problem for us, but because they might be a “stumbling block” for those around us.

What are some examples of stumbling blocks that you know of? What are some of the benefits of avoiding those things?

Is there anything that you know you could avoid today to help others around you see Jesus more clearly?

Parents, give examples of the things you should avoid, currently avoid, or have avoided in the past and why.

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