

URGENT

1st  
CENTURY  
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# 1 Corinthians





# **The Apostle Paul's Mission to the Corinthians**



# Christ Bible Church



## Adult Bible Class Calendar Spring 2023

Date			Lesson Portion of 1 Corinthians
1	February	5	Review of 1 Corinthians 1-7 & Preview of 1 Corinthians 8-11
2	February	12	1 Corinthians 8:1-6
3	February	19	1 Corinthians 8:7-13
4	February	26	1 Corinthians 9:1-14
5	March	5	1 Corinthians 9:15-27
6	March	12	1 Corinthians 10:1-13
7	March	19	1 Corinthians 10:14-22
8	March	26	1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1
9	April	2	1 Corinthians 15:1-28
10	April	9	1 Corinthians 15:29-58

# 1 Corinthians 10:23-11.1

“All things are lawful,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful,” but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor. Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any questions on the ground of conscience. For “the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.” If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. But if someone says to you, “This has been offered in sacrifice,” then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience—I do not mean your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience? If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks?

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.



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Freedom of Conscience  
Concerning Things God  
Does Not Forbid or Command  
1 Corinthians 8:1-11:1

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# 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

CONCERNING FOODS SACRIFICED TO IDOLS (8:1-11:1)  
Instructions for Eating Private Meals (10:23-11:1)

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# Outline of 1 Corinthians

I. Introduction (1:1-9).

II. Responses to Received Reliable Oral Reports from the Corinthians (1:10-6:20).

III. Responses to a Letter from the Corinthians (7:1-16:4).

A. Concerning Marriage and Related Questions (7:1-40).

B. Concerning Foods Sacrificed to Idols (8:1-11:1).

1. Correcting the Problem: Knowledge and Love (8:1-13).

2. Modeling Proper Use & Non-Use of Christian Freedom (9:1-27).

3. Idolatrous Presumption: Israel's Typological Forewarning (10:1-13).

4. Flee from Idolatry: The Sanctity of the Lord's Table (10:14-22).

5. Instructions for Eating Private Meals: Guard the Consciences of Others (10:23-11:1).

# Instructions for Eating Private Meals

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**1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-11:1**



# Christian Liberty with Boundaries

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**1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-24**

Paul returns to the slogan, “All things are lawful!”

## 1 Corinthians 10:23-24

“All things are lawful,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful,” but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.

## Christian Liberty with Boundaries (10:23-24)

- The same slogan we came upon in 1 Corinthians 6:12—“All things are lawful!”
- As before, Paul qualifies the slogan, “but not everything is beneficial.”
- In 1 Corinthians 6:12, Paul’s focus was on the individual.
- In 1 Corinthians 6, Paul rebukes the indulging appetites rooted in an errant and sinful belief that the body is disposable.
- Concerning bodily appetites, anyone who acts on the belief that one is free to engorge the senses risks losing freedom by becoming enslaved to the behaviors and actions one deems freeing.



## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

“All things are lawful for me,” *but not all things are helpful.* “All things are lawful for me,” *but I will not be dominated by anything.* “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy both one and the other.” The body is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. *So glorify God in your body.*

## **Christian Liberty with Boundaries (10:23-24)**

- In 1 Corinthians 6:12, Paul focuses on the individual; in 10:23, his concern is for how we deal with others.
- He is “one-another-focused” – “All things are lawful,’ but not all things build up others.”
- Verse 24 makes Paul’s point: “Let no one seek his own good but the good of his neighbor.”

# Christian Liberty without Questions

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**1 CORINTHIANS 10:25-26**



## 1 Corinthians 10:25-26

Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any questions on the ground of conscience. For “the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.”

## **Christian Liberty without Questions (10:25-26)**

- Paul wants all Christians to exercise freedom when eating meats purchased at Corinth's meat markets.
- Paul wants Jewish Christians to become as he is, no longer practicing Mosaic Law restrictions concerning non-moral issues, such as food restrictions.
- "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it."

# 1 Timothy 4:1-5

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.



# **Christian Liberty with Freedom Not to Act**

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**1 CORINTHIANS 10:27-30**

# 1 Corinthians 10:27-29

If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. But if someone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience—I do not mean your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience? If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks?

# Christian Liberty—Freedom Not to Act (10:27-29)

- When one's host is a pagan—"eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience" (10:27).
- When told—"This has been offered in sacrifice."
  - Paul's expression—foods "offered in sacrifice."
  - Paul forbids eating in this case "for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience." These are not two distinct reasons for not eating.
- Eating in this case approves of pagan idolatry.
- Guard your freedom from condemnation by another whose conscience is weak.



# Christian Liberty to the Glory of God

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**1 CORINTHIANS 10:31-11:1**

# 1 Corinthians 10:30-11:1

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

# Christian Liberty to the Glory of God (10:31-11:1)

- *Things*, in themselves are amoral.
- All our *actions* are intrinsically moral or immoral.
- “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”
- “For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin” (Romans 14:23).
- Never become a stumbling block to impede others—Jews, Greeks, or “the church of God.”
- Paul does not advocate becoming a “pleaser of men.”
- “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ”—the whole of chapter 9.

**Distinguish Between  
Our Freedom Becoming a  
Stumbling Block to Others**

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**The Gospel Message, Call, &  
Implications Causing Offense  
to Others**



# Distinguish Causes of Offenses

- Purchasing and eating vegetables sold at a local farmer's market that may have been offered to Buddha?
- Knowingly purchasing and eating vegetables offered to Buddha and sold at a local farmer's market?
- Partaking of Mass at a relative's Roman Catholic church?
- Attending a wedding between two non-Christians?
- Attending a wedding between a Christian and a non-Christian and giving a gift?
- Attending a "gay wedding" and giving a gift?
- Holding worship services against Governor Walz's "emergency powers" prohibition and not requiring the wearing of masks?
- Refusing to shut down your restaurant against Governor Walz's "emergency powers" prohibition?

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