

LOVE IS

1 & 2 Corinthians

Week 11: 1 Corinthians 10

3 - Issues around idolatry - Chapters 8:1-10:17

Question - Can we eat meat sacrificed to idols?

- **Chapter 8** - It isn't edifying to others - it destroys
- **Chapter 9** - It isn't the example you were taught

Chapter 10:1-5 - The example of Moses and Israel

- Following the Exodus from Egypt everyone had the same physical and spiritual experiences...but not all of them had attitudes that were pleasing to God.
- Just because you can eat with a clean conscience doesn't mean God looks at it the same way!

Chapter 10:6-13 - How evil works

- You are falling into the trap!
- Idolatry, immorality, testing God, grumbling...your church sounds an awful lot like Israel in the desert!
- What were the consequences?
- This is temptation, and you are making excuses with "knowledge."

Chapter 10:14-22 - The sledgehammer

- Flee from idolatry! It is demonic
- Eating from the altar is participating in the idolatry
- We can not partake of the cup of Christ and the cup of demons

Chapter 10:23-24 - Responding to another claim

- Another quote - "All things are lawful"
- If it isn't helpful and if it doesn't build up others...then eliminate it
- Building on the teaching of Christ - love God, love others

Chapter 10:25-30 - What about...

- Whatever is in the market or at a believer's home does not need examination
- Refuse food that you know has been offered to an idol
- The "someone who informs" is not an unbelieving host, but a believer who knows what you do not. In that case, refuse it for the sake of the one who told you.
- If you partake of food with thankfulness, and no knowledge of its origin, you are not condemned

Chapter 10:31-11:1 - Conclusion

- A better question than "Is this allowed?" is "Does this glorify God?"
- Jews and Greeks were coming from extremely different backgrounds into one church - seek the advantage and growth of others

For us

- What younger Christians could use your influence?
- Does anything in your life need elimination?
- How common is the attitude 'for God's glory' in your mind?
- Paul is creating a balance for Christians among unbelievers - be pleasing, cause no offense, I have become all things to all people...is it possible to be full of both grace and truth?