

CALLED TO BE SAINTS **TOGETHER**

This is **Freedom**

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 (ESV)

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. 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.

An **object lesson** – food offered to idols

The context:

The dilemma:

The myth:

The reality:

4 lessons for us today from the text:

_____ and _____ will only take you so far in making right ethical/moral decisions.

None of us possesses _____ knowledge!

What we think we know has a tendency to make us _____.

This _____ us to the viewpoints of others.

True knowledge is _____ because it reveals how little we really know!

Often, there are _____ principles in play.

Without _____, you can be " _____ " and still be _____!

Which is more important – truth or love?

Biblical love causes _____. It is not absent of _____.

It is the proper application of _____ for the sake of another.

Personal _____ is not the highest aim of the Christian life.

Hurting other Christians hurts Christ!

Causing someone to violate their _____ has serious negative consequences for that person.

We should understand our "freedom" in Christ as ...

a) the ability to truly _____

b) the ability to control our actions for the benefit of _____

My primary consideration as a Christian is not for _____, but for _____ for whom Christ died!

Have I displayed Jesus?

Is the other person's faith strengthened?

Is there a _____ of truth and love at work?

Have I advanced the _____?