

WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your group.



FOR DISCUSSION:

1. This long passage (chapters 8 through 10) deals with freedom and eating food sacrificed to idols. How do you think it relates to you today?
2. Why does Paul make such a strong statement about idolatry? (Flee)
3. What kinds of idolatry do you see in the lives of others? How about your own life?
4. With the examples of the meals, what do you see as Paul's major thought? What did you learn from this section?
5. Where should Christian freedom end?

MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS SERIES

1Cor. 10:23 “I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but not everything is constructive. 24 No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.



September 15 & 16, 2018 | CYAFI #5 | 1Corinthians 10:14-22 | Dennis Miller, pastor

OUR KEY THOUGHT FOR THIS SERIES:

FREEDOM in Christ is a wonderful thing, but we want to use that freedom WISELY. In whatever you do, pause and ask yourself how it might AFFECT someone else's faith.

1Cor. 10:23 “I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but not everything is constructive. 24 No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.

AS WE CONTINUE IN CHAPTER 10 . . .

1. Paul continues ANSWERING questions from the people in the church at Corinth. (Chapters 8 through 11)

1Cor. 7:1 Now for the matters you wrote about: . . .

1Cor. 8:1 Now about food sacrificed to idols: . . .

2. In chapter 8, Paul began answering the question about the freedom of eating FOOD sacrificed to IDOLS. He concludes that discussion at the end of chapter 10.

3. This struggle with freedom was DIFFICULT for these new Christians in Corinth. This issue is still one of the most difficult for Christians to process TODAY!

4. In chapter 9, Paul reinforced the thought that freedom ENDS at the OFFENSE of another. In chapter 10, he explains that freedom must also end when it LEADS to sin.

THE ENCOURAGEMENT TO FLEE

1Cor. 10:14 *Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry. 15 I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say.*

1. The word “*therefore*” (*on which very account*) referred to the EXAMPLES of idolatry that Paul had just SHARED (10:1-13).

2. “*My beloved*” (ἀγαπητός, agapētos) is a term of DEEP AFFECTION. Paul referred to the Corinthians this way THREE times in the letter. We take a warning more SERIOUSLY when we know that the person speaking deeply CARES for us.

3. The word “*flee*” (φεύγω, pheugō) is one that Paul used TWICE in this letter and NEVER again in any other letter to a church. We need to run FAST from TWO particular sins.

1Cor. 6:18 *Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.*

4. “*Idolatry*” is defined as: “Putting something or someone AHEAD of the true God.” John Piper said, “*What is an idol? It is the thing loved or the person loved more than God, wanted more than God, desired more than God, treasured more than God, enjoyed more than God.*”

Ex. 20:1 *And God spoke all these words: 2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 “You shall have no other gods before me. 4 “You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.*

Examples of idolatry today:

— Worshiping IMAGES or traditions

— Worshiping IMPROPERLY

John 4:24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

— SUPERSTITIOUS behavior or involvement in astrology, witchcraft, or “FUTURE-telling”

— GREED

Col. 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

— Inappropriate PRIORITY of self, family or . . .

5. Lastly, Paul explains that the Corinthians are SENSIBLE, and if they think through this argument, it will become CLEAR.

THE EXAMPLE FROM THREE MEALS

1. The example of HOLY Communion.

1Cor. 10:16 *Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.*

a. When you take the “*cup of blessing* (εὐλογέω, eulogeō) *which we bless*,” you PARTICIPATE (κοινωνία, koinōnia) in the DEATH of Christ.

b. When you eat the BREAD (loaf), you participate (κοινωνία, koinōnia) in the LIFE of Christ.

c. There is ONE cup, ONE loaf and ONE body so we commune with Christ and with ONE another.

2. The example of Old Testament SACRIFICES.

1Cor. 10:18 *Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar?*

a. Those who ate the sacrifices communed with GOD (the altar) and with one ANOTHER.

3. The example of PAGAN ceremonies.

1Cor. 10: 19 *Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? 20 No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord’s table and the table of demons. 22 Are we trying to arouse the Lord’s jealousy? Are we stronger than he?*

a. There are NO gods but Jehovah. Idols are NOTHING.

b. However, if you participate in pagan RITUALS, you “COMMUNE” with pagans and possibly with demons.

c. You cannot serve two masters or worship two “GODS”. You either worship Christ ALONE, or you choose demons.

d. Do you want to make God jealous or pick a FIGHT with Him? Of course not! So be very CAREFUL.

APPLICATION:

1. Identify any idolatry in your OWN LIFE.

2. Choose to commune with ONLY Christ and fellow believers.