

Life Group Guide 1 Cor 10:23–11:1 “Do All to the Glory of God” For the Sermon Preached on Jan 8 and For Use in Life Groups through Jan 15

Icebreaker Questions

What was the best meal you had over the Christmas holiday? Did you eat anything you regretted?

Read the Biblical Text: 1 Cor 10:23–11:1

Pastor Richard’s Sermon Outline

- I. Basic Considerations for Using Your Christian Liberty (vv. 23-30)
 - a. Is this for self-gratification or for the edification of others (v. 23)?
 - b. Am I putting the well-being of others before myself (v. 24)?
 - c. Am I allowing the personal choice to limit my Christian liberty for the sake of others to become an unnecessary legalistic battle with others (vv. 25-27)?
 - d. Am I showing genuine concern for weaker believers (vv. 28-30)?
- II. Be Committed to Properly Using Your Christian Liberty (vv. 31-32)
 - a. The believer’s purpose in life is to glorify God (v. 31).
 - b. The believer’s priority in life is to live to the glory of God (v. 32).
- III. Be Consistent in the Use of Your Christian Liberty (10:33-11:1)
 - a. Consistency in the use of your Christian liberty demonstrates to others the difference that Christ can make in their life (v. 33).
 - b. Consistency in the use of your Christian liberty becomes an example for new believers to follow in their walk with Christ (11:1).

Observations of the Biblical Text

1. What things does Paul say are lawful to him in verse 23?

2. What does Paul say all things are *not* in verse 23?

3. In verse 24, what does Paul say everyone should and should not seek?

4. In verses 25 and 27, what does Paul say we should eat? What is Paul’s justification for this permission to eat in verse 26?

5. According to verse 28, if a Christian objects in your presence to eating meat that has been sacrificed to an idol, what should you do? According to verses 29-30, why should you respond this way?

6. In verse 31, what does Paul say should be our motive for doing everything?

7. What does Paul say should be our motive beyond glorifying God in verses 32-33?

8. What does Paul say we should do in 1 Corinthians 11:1?

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Interpretation of the Biblical Text

1. Take a minute to review what we have learned so far in 1 Corinthians. What has Paul talked about to this point? What are some of the major features of 1 Corinthians 1-10? What are some of the memorable moments for you of 1 Corinthians 1-10?

2. At the end of 1 Corinthians 10, Paul is revisiting the argument he began in 1 Corinthians 8. Review 1 Corinthians 8. What was Paul’s argument there?

3. What does he mean when he says, “All things are lawful” in verse 23? What argument is Paul making in verses 23-24?

4. In verses 25-31 Paul reiterates his “meat offered to idols” argument. What circumstance does Paul have in mind in verse 25? What circumstance does Paul have in mind in verse 27? Who is the “someone” in verse 28? What is his justification for making these claims about eating (hint: look at verses 26, 29, 30, and 31)?

5. Paul ends his argument (verses 10:32-11:1) with a call to mission and a call to discipleship. What does he say about each? How should we put this into practice?

Application of the Biblical Text

1. This week memorize 1 Corinthians 10:31 and read through 1 Corinthians 11 a few times in preparation for the discussion next week.

2. Keep up with our annual Bible reading plan this week. If you have gotten behind, pick up where we are right now. You can always go back and read what you’ve missed as you have time.

3. What are some modern equivalents to eating with a believer and being served meat that has been offered to an idol? How can we apply Paul’s teaching to those incidents?

4. What are some of the challenges in living out Paul’s teaching: “Let no one seek his own good” and “I try to please everyone in everything I do . . . that they may be saved”? How can we live out Paul’s teaching while protecting ourselves and our families from harm?

5. What are some of the challenges in using other Christians as role models for Christian living? What are the challenges of being a role model for Christian living? How can we do both well?
