

A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

HOLINESS IN FREEDOM: THE WEAK



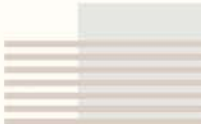


CROSS-SHAPED FREEDOM

Freedom of acceptance.

Freedom from idolatry.

Freedom to love.





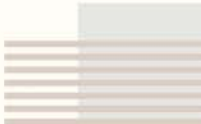
Cross-shaped freedom compels us to give up our rights
to build up our brothers and sisters.



FREEDOM OF ACCEPTANCE FROM IDOLATRY TO LOVE

1 Corinthians 8:1-3 ^{NIV}

Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. ² Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. ³ But whoever loves God is known by God.

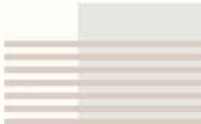




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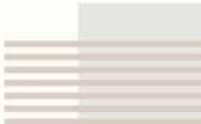




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John 13:34-35 ^{NIV}

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

John 15:12-13 ^{NIV}

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.



“PUFFED UP” KNOWLEDGE

Tears down
Focus on me
Reveals pride
Human status
Freedom to do

“CROSS-SHAPED” FREEDOM

Builds up
Focus on we
Reveals humility
“In Christ” status
Freedom to not do

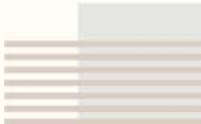


FREEDOM

OF ACCEPTANCE
FROM IDOLATRY
TO LOVE

1 Corinthians 8:4-6 ^{NIV}

So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: **We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.”** ⁵ For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), ⁶ yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.



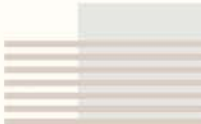


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I Thessalonians 1:9 ^{NIV}

...for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you **turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God...**

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 ^{NIV}

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ **Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.** ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

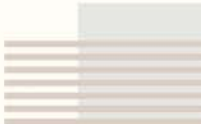


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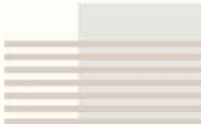


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1 Corinthians 8:7-8 ^{NIV}

But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. ⁸ But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.



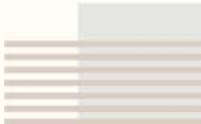


FREEDOM

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1 Corinthians 8:9-13 ^{NIV}

Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? ¹¹ So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. ¹² When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.



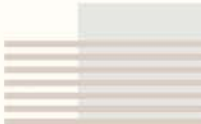


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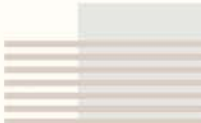


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The background of the slide is a black and white photograph of a library. On the left, there are tall bookshelves filled with books. On the right, a person is partially visible, looking at a book. A large, light yellow rectangular box is centered on the slide, containing the text. The box has a small green triangle at its top-left corner and a circular area with red and white diagonal stripes at its bottom-right corner.

Cross-shaped freedom gives up to build up.

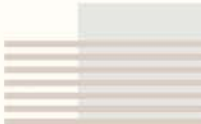


GIVE UP TO BUILD UP

In what ways has your knowledge puffed you up?

In what areas/places are you still tempted to give into your old “idols”?

How are you using your freedom to build up the “weak”?



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