

Questions

1. How would you describe the meaning of Christian freedom to a young believer, and what is one way in which you have experienced it?
2. Read 1 Corin 10:23-24. What's missing from the Corinthian slogan, "Everything is permissible"?
3. You're serving alongside another believer with whom you have a significant difference over a matter of preference. Should you talk with that person about your difference? If so, what would characterize a servant's approach to the matter?
4. Read 1 Corin 10:27-28. What difference did it make for the believer if an unbeliever said that the meat was sacrificed to an idol? Why is the believer's response different?
5. What is the point of Paul's questions in 1 Corin 10:29-30? Should you be concerned about an unbeliever's perception of your actions? Why or why not?
6. Are there ways in which you have cut off opportunities to proclaim the gospel by how you've judged an unbeliever? Would you now take a different approach?
7. Read 1 Corin 10:33. Commit to pray this week for God to give you an opportunity to draw closer to an unbeliever that you previously kept at a distance?

For further reading on Christian freedom:

Called to Freedom by Brad Littlejohn (2025)

For further reading on glorifying God:

How Do We Glorify God by John D. Hannah (2008)

*Need prayer? Someone will be up front by the piano
to pray with you after the 1st & 2nd services.*

gbclorton.com/sermons

1 Corinthians

MESSY CHURCH MIGHTY CHRIST

Imitate Christ

1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor

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First Corinthians 10:23-11:1 calls believers to glorify God by imitating Jesus through denying self and sacrificially serving others.

In Christ, you have been set free! Now use your freedom to be a slave of God and a slave of your neighbor.

The transforming power of the gospel has freed and empowers you to do what you *could* never do otherwise: please God.

And it has freed you and empowers you to do what you *would* never desire to do otherwise: relegate your desires beneath the goal of pleasing the people around you.

Paul responded to the Corinthian slogan ("Everything is permissible") with a different standard: Are you edifying others? Are you serving neighbors, brothers/sisters, etc.?

Two Examples of Seeking the Common Good.

Meat that's sold in the market

Your chief slogan is no longer, "Everything is permissible. I can do what I want." Your new theme is. "I get to live to glorify God by imitating Jesus Christ's self-denial and sacrificial service in the church and in the world."

Meat that's served at an unbeliever's home

I also try to please everyone in everything, not seeking my own benefit, but the benefit of many, so that they may be saved (1 Corin 10:33).

Eat, without asking questions.

Don't eat if the unbeliever says the meat has been sacrificed to an idol. Take care to not send a confusing or compromising message to the unbeliever.

I want the recipient to know that I count him/her as worthy of my willingness to soften or change my attitude, my words, or my approach.

Serving others includes being concerned about an unbeliever's perception of my actions.