



June 20 and 21, 2009

“Knowledge Puffs Up, But Love Builds Up”

1 Corinthians 8 (pg 810); 10:14-33

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:1-3 Knowledge, doctrine is necessary, but it must show itself in love and build up others or it results in arrogance.

“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love” (Galatians 5:6).

:4-6 The Greeks and Romans worshipped many “gods,” but there is only one living Creator God (Genesis 1:1; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2).

:7-8 An idol is an object of worship (other than the true God) that is trusted to provide security, worth, identity.

Since **we know** there is no actual God represented by the idol, we/they can eat meat sacrificed to that idol without participating in idol worship.

But not everyone knows that and if they saw us eat, they would think we approve of idol worship.

:9-13 “Causing a weaker brother to stumble” is leading him to **do** what he believes is wrong because he sees us do it.

“Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin” (Romans 14:22-23).

Because of love in amoral situations, we limit our liberty rather than lead a weaker believer to do what he believes is sinful.

10:14-33 Though idols are not real gods, there are demons associated with idols and we must not participate with demons.

What are “American idols” that we trust to provide our security, worth, identity?

Do we love enough to be a good example for others?

Study Questions for Next Week
1 Corinthians 9

1. vs 1-18 List all the “rights” Paul gave up.
vs 19-27 Why did he do that?
2. What self-control do you practice so that others will come to Christ and that you will not be disqualified for the prize?