



**Week of March 3**  
**1 Corinthians 8:1-13<sup>1</sup>**

**Overview**

Paul's letter to the Corinthians addresses needs and problems specific to that local church. But for a 2000-year-old letter, many of the topics will ring true to us today as well. Cultural diversity and religious pluralism were obvious in 1<sup>st</sup> Century Corinth and are also rampant in our 21<sup>st</sup> century world. Paul cares deeply about both right living and right thinking for Christians, and so should we. Read the letter with a view toward Paul's primary purposes: the health and "building up" of the body of Christ, and actions which further the gospel. Keeping these themes in mind will help you understand the "why" behind Paul's guidance and admonitions to the Corinthian Christians.

**Group Objectives**

***Relationships and Life Transformation are the primary purposes of community groups.***

- Reflect on this past Sunday's message and other devotional reading.
- Pray together and provide encouragement for other group members...how can you "build one another up" this week?
- Pray for God's call to reach your "one more."

**DNA statement(s) tie-in**

- ***We are On Mission to Reach One More.*** Every person matters to God, so every person matters to us. God invites every one of us to join him in his great mission to **reach one more** – one more coworker, neighbor, family member, and friend.
- ***We are All for Jesus.*** Jesus saves us from our past, remakes us to be like him, heals our broken places, and is coming back as our king. Only Jesus is worthy of our allegiance, and worldly division has no place for those who follow him.

**Conversation Starters**

- What stood out to you from this week's sermon?
- What hobby or activity brings you closer to God? Why do you think that's so?

**Listening to God**

- Where did you experience God last week?
- How were you able to join God on mission?

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<sup>1</sup> This discussion guide was written by Elaine Rodeck and edited by Dawn Gentry. For additional content, see the [sermon online](#) and the reading plan [found here](#).

## Learning from God's Word: Bible Study Discussion

In chapter eight, Paul writes to the Corinthians about food offered to idols. Paul provides guidance on the actual food offered to idols and where this food is eaten (i.e., idol's temple). However, there is much more to this chapter. Paul is fundamentally concerned about the potential stumbling block to the weak, and the impact on a weaker brother or sister that could result from the Corinthians eating food offered to idols and eating this food in an idol's temple.

### **Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

- What stood out to you from these verses as we read them?
- What do you find most challenging about this text?
- How might this text have convicted the Corinthians? Why?
- Review verses 10-13.
  - Summarize the verses. What is Paul's message to the Corinthians?
- How do you sense God calling you to respond to this passage?
  - Why is it important to have allegiance to Jesus alone?

### **Reach One More Practice**

- Invite your "one more" to a meal this week.
- How is God asking you to live differently? What impact might this have with your "one more" and others around you?
- What are you learning about yourself in this season?
  - What are you learning about God?

### **Prayer Prompts**

- Invite members of the group to share requests.
- Allow time for silent reflection on the following prompts.
  - *Jesus, thank you for showing us how to live. May we die to self and turn our lives over to you. May we put the needs of others first and live for you alone. Amen.*

### **For further study**

- For more about the **Reach One More** initiative, see [www.reachonemore.cccomaha.org](http://www.reachonemore.cccomaha.org).
- For practical ideas you can implement as you reach one more, see <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzdVE7HNSqM-FEzli5Etuzj379W7kUsxO>
- Bible Project Videos: Guide to 1st Corinthians: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/1-corinthians/>
- Right Now Media Series – "Bible Backroads" – great background on Corinth, suitable for families: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/806863>
- Ben Witherington, *A Week in the Life of Corinth*
- NT Wright, *1 Corinthians* (N. T. Wright *For Everyone* commentary series)
- Anthony Thiselton, *1 Corinthians: A Shorter Exegetical and Pastoral Commentary*

Some copies of these books may be available at the CCC resource booth to purchase on-site.