

# **AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS**

*A Study of First Corinthians*

## **LIBERTY AND IDOLATRY**

1 Corinthians 10:14-33      Jeff Schreve

*You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons: you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.*

*1 Corinthians 10:21*

### **What is the warning concerning liberty in the Christian life?**

#### **1. Liberty can create an environment for sin.**

*Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 1 Corinthians 10:14*

##### **A. We are called to be sharers with Jesus.**

*Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? 1 Corinthians 10:16*

##### **B. We are to be separate and completely His.**

*And I do not want you to become sharers in demons.  
1 Corinthians 10:20*

##### **C. We are called to glorify Him, not anger Him.**

#### **2. Liberty needs to pass some tests.**

*All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify. 1 Corinthians 10:23*

##### **A. Does this liberty I have build me up?**

##### **B. Does this liberty I have build others up?**

*Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.  
1 Corinthians 10:24*

**\* Don't go overboard with this question!**

C. Does this liberty I have build God up?

*Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31*

D. Does this liberty I have build the kingdom up?

*Don't give offense to Jews or Gentiles or the church of God. I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don't just do what is best for me; **I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.** 1 Corinthians 10:32-33 NLT*

1. If pressed, it is better to offend an unbeliever than to offend a weaker brother.

*If someone who isn't a believer asks you home for dinner, accept the invitation if you want to. Eat whatever is offered to you without raising questions of conscience. (But suppose someone tells you, "This meat was offered to an idol."*

*Don't eat it, out of consideration for the conscience of the one who told you. It might not be a matter of conscience for you, but it is for the other person.)*

*1 Corinthians 10:27-29 NLT*

2. How we treat each other speaks volumes to the lost.

*By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. 1 Corinthians 10:35*

**What liberty do you need to reexamine?**