

**GOSPEL** of *Grace*  
FELLOWSHIP

**1 Corinthians 8:10-13**

**Do Not Sin By Harming the Brethren**

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**Irony: Built Up for Idolatry**

**1 Corinthians 8:10 (LEB)**

For if someone should **see you who has knowledge reclining for a meal in an idol's temple**, will not his conscience, because it is weak, be **strengthened** so that he eats the food sacrificed to idols?

- The strong's knowledge can lead to idolatry
- "Strengthened" is *oikodomeo\_* 'build up'
- This ironic building up will destroy (vs 11)

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**Sin Against a Brother and Christ**

**1 Corinthians 8:11 (LEB)**

For the one who is weak—the **brother for whom Christ died**—is **destroyed** by your knowledge.

- "Destroyed" is *apollumi* often translated "perish" in NT (used 6X in 1 Corinthians)
- By adding "for whom Christ died" Paul emphasizes each member of the body
- To have a cavalier attitude which shows no concern for the weak is fully unacceptable

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**Sinning Against Insecure Christians**

**1 Corinthians 8:12 (ESV)**

Thus, **sinning** against your brothers and **wounding their conscience** when it is weak, **you sin** against Christ.

- "wounding" is *tupto\_* 'inflicting a blow'
- The word for sin is found at the beginning and end of this verse framing Paul's rebuke
- The body of Christ is a temple of the Holy Spirit (3:16,17) and must be seen as such

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**Our Rights Cannot Be Allowed to Cause a Brother in Christ to Fall**

**1 Corinthians 8:13 (ESV)**

Therefore, if food makes my brother **stumble**, I will **never** eat meat, lest I make my brother **stumble**.

- "Stumble" is *skandalizo\_*
- Paul uses 'into the age' (never)
- The point is that love for our brothers and sisters in Christ must take priority
- The well-being of the Lord's flock is key

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**Implications and Applications**

- Sin against brothers and sisters in Christ is sin against Christ
- To affirm the corporate solidarity of the church we must have a biblical understanding of the church

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### Paul Persecutes Christians

#### Acts 9:1-2 (NASB)

Now Saul, still **breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord**, went to the high priest, and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that **if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.**

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### Jesus Affirmed His Solidarity With His Disciples

#### Acts 9:3-4 (NASB)

As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, **why are you persecuting Me?**"

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### Paul Would Willingly Obey

#### Acts 9:5-6 (NASB)

And he said, "Who are You, Lord?"  
And He said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, but get up and enter the city, **and it will be told you what you must do.**"

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### Paul Testified of His Calling

#### Acts 26:16-17 (NASB)

"But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose **I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you...**

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### Jesus Reveals the Spiritual Reality of the Church to Paul

#### Acts 26:18 (NASB)

'to open their eyes so **that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.**

- **Those who believe the gospel, turning to God through Christ, are the church**

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