

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the supporting clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

³¹So, whether you eat
or drink,
or whatever you do,
do all to the glory of God.
³²Give no offense
to Jews
or to Greeks
or to the church of God,
³³just as I try to please everyone in everything I do,
not seeking my own advantage,
but that of many,
that they may be saved.

¹Be imitators of me,
as I am of Christ.

1. In context, “whether you eat or drink” refers to all that Paul has been saying in chapters 8-10. How do we know that he intends for the Corinthians to apply the principles he has laid out to more areas of their lives?
2. What does he say should be the end goal of everything they do?
3. How should living for the glory of God impact the way the Corinthians view eating in the pagan temples?

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4. How many people are included in “to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God,” and how could you group these into just two categories?
5. What is the opposite of “giv[ing] no offense,” and from where in the text do you get your answer?
6. Does Paul succeed in pleasing everyone and offending no one?
7. According to the passage, how does he try to do so?
8. According to the passage, why does he say that he does so?
9. According to the passage, where did he learn to do so?

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 again.

10. The phrase translated “give no offense to” could also be translated “be blameless to.” How could this understanding help us to successfully obey Paul’s instructions?
11. Who does Paul ultimately want them to imitate?

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12. Why do you think Paul tells them to imitate *him* as he imitates Christ rather than just telling them to imitate Christ?

13. What are the three imperatives in this week's passage?

14. Which is the main imperative?

15. How do the other two help to accomplish the main imperative?

16. 1 Corinthians 8:1 began with "now concerning food offered to idols." Based on all that we have studied in chapters 8-10 this semester, summarize Paul's basic instructions on this topic in two or three sentences.

17. Give a few examples of how these principles could be applied to "whatever you do."

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❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 again.

18. Look back over all of chapters 1-10 and list several of the examples Paul has presented in this letter from his own life (in what he instructs them to do, in what he has given up for the sake of the gospel, etc.).

a. How would obedience to his many instructions help them to “do all to the glory of God”?

b. How does Paul’s life demonstrate that he is imitating Christ? (Consider passages such as Philippians 2:1-18, Matthew 20:25-28, Luke 19:10, etc.)

19. Is there an area in your life where you know that you are not living to the glory of God? What are you going to do about it?

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Next week we will look at Romans 14 and how Paul's instructions there fit in with his instructions here in 1 Corinthians. To close out the year, Pastor Bret will then preach two sermons on Religious Affections. Since this is the last lesson in 1 Corinthians for this semester, take a few moments to think back on the semester, then answer the questions below.

20. Throughout this semester, what have you learned about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), mankind, and the church?

21. Throughout this semester, what has encouraged or convicted you?

22. How have the things we have studied impacted your daily life?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would do everything to the glory of God, that we would willingly give up anything that would hinder someone else's understanding of the gospel, and that we would actively seek the salvation of those around us.