

First

# CORINTHIANS

**CHRIST ALONE: TOGETHER**

EAST ELEVATION

# 1 Corinthians Summary

## Chapters 1-7

**BIG IDEA: The culture is having too big an influence. Get a bigger view of Jesus.**

# THE FOUNDATION:

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- Your disunity is not a good sign. (1:10-17)
  - **Jesus ought to unite you all.**

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  - **You ought to be loving one another in a way that demonstrates forgiveness.**



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  - **Ought to be finding a joy in Jesus that makes immorality less appealing.**

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  - **You ought to be finding so much joy in Jesus that encourages you to embrace your marital status as it is.**

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- You are self-focused and not considering the perspective of other believers. (8:1-13)
  - **You ought to be happily forfeiting your rights for the good of your brothers and sisters.**

# Free in Christ to Live with Restraint

**1. Too often “knowledge” begets arrogance.**



# 1 Corinthians 8:1-3

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup> If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

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- Not knocking knowledge
- Knowledge not directed by love “puffs up”
- Be careful about being overconfident about what we know
- **Being known by God is the foundation of our lives**

1. Too often “knowledge” begets arrogance.
2. **“Knowing” the truth about God, about faith, is critical.**

# 1 Corinthians 8:1-6

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## 1 Corinthians 8:1-6

<sup>5</sup> For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— <sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

**2. “Knowing” the truth about God, about faith, is critical.**

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- Having the correct theology is good
- There is only one God
  - **The gods in Corinth – Chronos, Poseidon, the Sun, the Calm, the Sea, Aphrodite, Artemis, Isis, Dionysus, Fortune, Apollo, Hermes, Zeus, Asclepius, and others...**

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1. Too often “knowledge” begets arrogance.
2. “Knowing” the truth about God, about faith, is critical.
3. **However, not all “know” meat offered to idols is impotent, and so insisting on eating it, may cause them spiritual harm.**

## 1 Corinthians 8:7-11

<sup>7</sup> However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup> Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup> But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.



## 1 Corinthians 8:7-11

<sup>10</sup> For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup> And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died.

**3. However, note all “know” meat offered to idols is impotent, and so insisting on eating it, may cause them spiritual harm.**

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- Watching other believers eat it could tempt weaker to think participating with idols is not a problem (polytheism, syncretism, is ok)
- Believing one can love Christ and participate with idols is damning
- **Insisting on rights that are misunderstood by those weaker is catastrophic**

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2. “Knowing” the truth about God, about faith, is critical.
3. However, not all “know” meat offered to idols is impotent, and so insisting on eating it, may cause them spiritual harm.
4. **Not considering the perspective of fellow Jesus-treasurers, insisting on freedoms we have in Christ, is sinning against them and Christ.**

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- Not here encouraging educating the weaker brother
- **Is giving “knowledge” about how genuine Jesus-treasurers always consider the spiritual health of others**

**5. Therefore, we will happily forfeit the rights we have in Christ for the sake of our brothers and sisters.**

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<sup>12</sup> Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> **Therefore**, if food makes my brother stumble, **I will never eat meat**, lest I make my brother stumble.

# The “knowledge” Paul promotes:

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- **Christ-centered**

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- **Other-focused and loving**

**What's the point for we treasurers of Jesus?**



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- We will always do our best to get an accurate picture of God from Scripture.
- We will always consider the perspective of others in our enjoyment and promotion of Jesus.
- **We will not insist on our rights, we will happily forfeit them for the spiritual benefit of our brothers and sisters in Christ.**

# The issues:

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- **Beverage - Alcohol**

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- **Demonic themed entertainment**

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- Beverage - Alcohol
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- **Masks and vaccines**