

“Conscience and Community” 1 Corinthians 8

* God’s Word and Your Conscience

- The Bible gives [clear commands](#) regarding some issues, but [not all](#).

- When the Bible does not give a clear command, God has given us a [conscience](#) that we are to follow. (1 Timothy 1:5)

- A believer’s conscience is to be [shaped](#) by [God’s Word](#).
This process requires [time](#), [consistency](#), and [faith](#). (Hebrews 5:11-14)

- Living with a [clear](#) conscience (1 Timothy 3:9) includes not [wounding](#) the conscience of [another](#). (1 Corinthians 8:12)

* A Case Study in Living by Conscience in Community

- The First Century Hot Button: To [eat](#) or not to [eat](#) food sacrificed to idols. v.1

- A Divided Church v.4-7

<p>Those with knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No idol, no contamination• Stronger brother	<p>Those without knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To eat is to worship idols• Weaker brother
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The knowledgeable conclusion: v.8

- Food sacrificed to an idol is [spiritually neutral](#)

The greater conclusion: v.2-3

- Knowledge applied [without love](#) is [destructive](#)

- Words to the wise / those with [knowledge](#) AND [love](#): The stronger brother should...
 - Be careful to [use](#) it with [love](#). v. 9-12 - Do not [wound](#), [ruin](#), or [sin against](#) the weaker brother
 - Be willing to [lose](#) it with [love](#). v. 13 - I can [give up a liberty](#) for a brother for whom Christ [gave up His life](#). v. 11