

## ***Glorify Christ in All That You Do***

1 Corinthians 10:14–11:1

**BIG IDEA:** Because God is jealous for His glory and Christ gave His life for our redemption, believers must glorify Him in every area of life—especially in their freedom, their worship, and their witness. Your Christian witness and testimony to Christ before others trumps your individual Christian “rights.” What is lawful or permitted should not be confused with what is helpful.

**BACKGROUND:** Paul’s exhortation from chapters 8 through 10 addresses the Corinthian church’s confusion over Christian liberty—especially regarding food offered to idols. While some believers claimed superior knowledge, insisting that “*an idol is nothing*,” others stumbled back into idolatry due to the liberties some Christians exercised without love. Paul warns the “strong” not to repeat Israel’s tragic failures (10:1–13) and urges all believers to flee idolatry (vv. 14–22), not because idol meat is inherently powerful, but because participating in pagan rituals provokes God’s jealousy and compromises their witness of exclusive devotion to Christ. At stake is more than personal choice—it’s covenantal faithfulness. This unit ties together Paul’s argument and transitions into the next issue in Ch. 11: how rights, roles, and public testimony play out in worship. In the end, the Christian life isn’t about fitting Christ into the margins—it’s about surrendering every area of our lives to glorify Him, whether in worship, in freedom, or in everyday decisions.

### **1. Flee from What Diminishes God’s Glory (10:14–22)**

**Key Principle:** *True worship is exclusive and holy—God will not share His glory with idols.*

#### **A. Idolatry is More than Statues (v.14)**

- Paul says “flee”—not argue, flirt, or debate with idolatry.
- Idolatry is placing anything before God in affection, trust, or allegiance.

#### **B. Worship Connects Us to Spiritual Realities (v.15–18)**

- Participation in the Lord’s Supper is communion with Christ (v. 16).
- Likewise, participating in idol feasts draws one into fellowship with demons.

#### **C. God is Jealous for His Glory (19–22)**

- Behind idolatry are demonic forces (v.20)
- God will not tolerate divided loyalty. Do not provoke Him to jealousy (v.22).

#### **Application:**

- ✓ Examine what you’re tempted to put in God’s place—success, relationships, pleasure, approval.
- ✓ Don’t trivialize idolatry. Flee from what draws your heart away from Christ.
- ✓ Worship isn’t neutral—it shapes your affections and aligns you with spiritual forces. Worship is never just entertainment or ritual. Whether in church or out in the world, what we give our attention and affection to is forming us spiritually—for God’s glory or for something far less.

### **2. Use Your Freedom to Glorify Christ (10:23–30)**

**Key Principle:** *Christian freedom must be governed by love, not self-indulgence.*

#### **A. Not Everything That’s Permissible Is Beneficial (vv. 23–24)**

- Twice Paul says, “*Everything is permissible*,” but not everything builds up.
- Freedom must always consider the impact on others.

#### **B. Live in the World Without Being Owned By It (vv. 25–27)**

- Buying meat at the market? Go ahead—don’t burden your conscience.
- Invited to a meal? Eat with thankfulness unless someone raises a concern

#### **C. Be Ready to Yield for the Sake of Conscience (vv. 28–30)**

- If someone says, “This was offered to an idol,” refrain—for their sake.
- Paul isn’t legalistic—he’s missional. He prioritizes the other person’s conscience and witness.

#### **Application:**

- ✓ Do you ask, “What can I get away with?” or “What most glorifies Christ?”
- ✓ Are you helping others grow—or using your freedom at their expense?
- ✓ In your everyday choices—media, career, spending—ask: Does this build others up and point them to Jesus?

### **3. Do All Things for the Glory of God (10:31–11:1)**

**Key Principle:** *The ultimate filter for every decision in the Christian life is: Will this bring glory to God?*

#### **A. Every Act Can Be Worship (v. 31)**

- “*Whether you eat or drink*”—even the most mundane acts are meant to glorify Christ. There are no “neutral” zones in the Christian life—***all of life is worship***.

#### **B. Live in a Way That Commends the Gospel to Others (vv. 32–33)**

- *Paul avoids giving offense to Jews, Greeks, or the church. This is not people-pleasing for its own sake—but gospel-pleasing. His goal? “So that they may be saved” (v.33). “...everything for the glory of God” (v.31)*

#### **C. Follow Christ by Following Gospel-Shaped Examples (11:1)**

- *Paul says, “Imitate me, as I imitate Christ.”* He’s not perfect—but he is committed to glorifying Christ in all things.

**Application:** *Do you glorify Christ in what you watch, say, post, or pursue?*

*Are you actively seeking to remove stumbling blocks for others to hear and believe the gospel? Who are you imitating—and who’s imitating you? Can they see Christ?*

† **CONCLUSION:** *Glorify Christ in All That You Do! In worship, in freedom, in daily decisions—God calls us to **glorify Christ above all**.*

- ❖ *Flee what dishonors Him (vv. 14–22).*
- ❖ *Use your freedom to love and build others up (vv. 23–30).*
- ❖ *Live every moment with His glory in mind (vv. 31–11:1).*