

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

1 Corinthians 10:14-33: Get Rid of Idols

Tell us, you idols, what is going to happen. Tell us what the former things were, so that we may consider them and know their final outcome. Or declare to us the things to come, tell us what the future holds, so we may know that you are gods. Do something, whether good or bad, so that we will be dismayed and filled with fear. But you are less than nothing and your works are utterly worthless; whoever chooses you is detestable. (Isaiah 41:22-24)

At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention. (1 Kings 18:27-29)

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry (Colossians 3:5)

(Verses 14-17)

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a <u>participation/sharing/communion</u> in the blood of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:16)

κοινωνία: an association involving close mutual relations and involvement

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (Acts 2:42-47)

(Verses 18-21)

How does connecting with idols arouse the Lord's jealousy?

(Verses 23-33)

What are modern situations that relate to meat sacrificed to idols?

(31) Can Christ be magnified in this activity?

(32) Will this cause any young believer to stumble away from God if I participate in this?

(33) Is this a right I should let go of to help someone come to be saved?

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. (1 Corinthians 11:1)

This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. And if we claim to have fellowship with Him but walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. (1 John 1:5-6) "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. (Matthew 6:24)

Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ. (Galatians 1:10)

HOME GROUP questions for 1 Corinthians 10:14-33 ...

- 1. How would you define idolatry? Is it merely worshipping a graven image? Read the following passages and discuss:
 - Colossians 3:55
 - Ephesians 5:5-6
 - 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
 - 1 Timothy 6:11, 2 Timothy 2:22
 - 1 John 5:21

What areas in your life would you need to re-evaluate to avoid idolatry in your life?

- 2. How does one put into practice in our culture today Paul's statement in verses 27-30? What questions should one ask before deciding to be participate with unbelievers?
 - Is my involvement consistent with my communion with Christ?
 - Is my involvement associated with the worship of demons?
 - Does my involvement glorify God and further the Gospel?
 - Is my involvement loving and preserves the conscience of my brother/sister in Christ?