

## **The Blessed Mess: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians**

### **Sermon Notes**

#### **How to Glorify God When We Disagree**

(1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1)

##### **The Principle**

"All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify. Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor." (1 Cor. 10:23-24)

##### **Its Application**

"Eat anything that is sold in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake; FOR THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S, AND ALL IT CONTAINS. If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that is set before you without asking questions for conscience' sake. But if anyone says to you, "This is meat sacrificed to idols," do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for conscience' sake; I mean not your own conscience, but the other man's; for why is my freedom judged by another's conscience? If I partake with thankfulness, why am I slandered concerning that for which I give thanks?" (1 Cor. 10:25-30)

##### **The Importance of this Principle**

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense either to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God; just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit but the profit of the many, so that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ." (1 Cor. 10:31-11:1)

### **For Further Thought and Discussion**

#### **Getting Started**

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. What "gray issues" divide believers today?

#### **Going Deeper**

3. Please read 1 Cor. 10:23-24. When we deal with issues which the Bible is silent about, what should our primary considerations be? Can you identify an area where your strong opinions have hurt others?
4. Please read 1 Cor. 10:24-30. How does Paul apply this principle to the debate about food offered to idols? When can the Corinthians eat food that has been offered to idols and when can't they?
5. Please read 1 Cor. 10:31-11:1. Why is applying this principle important for our own and other's spiritual health? What does Paul mean by "do all to the glory of God" in this context?

#### **Application**

What is one thing you will apply from this discussion?