**Considering Others (1 Cor 8-10) - July 12 Sermon Notes**

There are many opinions about issues (not essential to our salvation). The Devil aims at dividing Christ’s Church.

The church in Corinth was divided over the freedom to eat food sacrificed to idols. 1 Cor 8:1-3. Those who were free to eat displayed a superior attitude toward those who were not. “Knowledge puffs up.”

1. **The strong will seek to build up the weak in love.**

Here is what the strong argued - 1 Cor 8:1, 4-6. Free to eat anytning - Group 1 -

Group 2 disagreed. Not free to eat meat that has been defiled - 1 Cor 8:7.

The meat would have triggered negative emotions and pain.

1. **The strong will never allow the exercise of their rights to be a stumbling block for the weak**

1 Cor 8:8-10

Roman 14:23 – Everything that does not come from faith is sin.

* Example of Charles Spurgeon who decided to never return to a gambling resort for its garden.
* Example of mother causing child to stumble unintentionally – Luke 17:2
* Example of College upperclassmen causing Freshman to stumble

Jesus takes the issue of causing others to stumble very seriously.

1 Cor 8:11-12 – Wound – strike vigorously.

1. **The strong are called to consider the rights of others before their own.**

Constitutional Rights are the rights of the individual. Self-centric

God’s children live according to a higher Law – Love of Love. Others-centric

Matt 5:40 – Go the extra mile. Give the coat as well.

* Example of Pope Francis quote about living for others.

1 Cor 9:13 – Paul gave up his rights to never eat meat again.

* Example of retaliation on social media over nonessentials.

Summary attitude of a Christ-follower

1 Cor 9:19-23 - Become all things to all people to win them to the gospel.

10:31-33 - Please everyone in every way…seeking the good of many, so that they may be saved.