

Lesson 5: All to the Glory of God

A. A steppingstone or a stumbling block

1. 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 How could eating meat offered to idols be a stumbling block to those who are weak?
2. What motivated Paul to refrain from eating meat offered to idols? (Matthew 22:37-39)
3. How was Paul's life a steppingstone rather than a stumbling block? 1 Corinthians 9:1-12, 13-18, 19-23
4. Think of some individuals during the earthly ministry of Jesus whose lives were stumbling blocks rather than steppingstones. Caiaphas, Judas, Peter (at certain times), James and John (at certain times).
5. What are some activities you might choose to avoid that might be a stumbling block to others?
6. How can our lives be steppingstones, helping others on their journey toward a life-changing relationship with God? (Matthew 5:14-16, 25:34-36, etc.)

B. Learning from the past

1. 1 Corinthians 10:1-11 What lessons can we learn from the experiences of the children of Israel in their wilderness wanderings from Egypt to Canaan?
2. What word of caution did Paul give that will help us avoid similar failures? 1 Corinthians 10:12
3. What word of hope did Paul give when we are tempted to repeat the mistakes of the past? 1 Corinthians 10:13
4. Share a time when you felt spiritually weak and God made a way of escape for you.
5. 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 The children of Israel were lured into idolatry. Christians in Corinth were tempted to return to idolatry. What warnings about idolatry would Paul give if he were here today?

C. Do all to the glory of God

1. 1 Corinthians 10:31 What is the context for this life-principle Paul shared with Christians in Corinth?
2. What motivated Paul to do all to the glory of God? 1 Corinthians 10:32-33
3. Share some other aspects of life where this principle can be applied.
4. Share a time when you were impressed to change your behavior because you realized that you could not continue this conduct to the glory of God.
5. How does the invitation Paul given in 1 Corinthians 11:1 relate to the life-principle he shared in 1 Corinthians 10:31?
6. How is God impressing you to apply this life-principle to your life today?