SUNRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1 CORINTHIANS
Bob Santy, Executive Pastor

November 8th, 2026

Being Right vs. Being Loving
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

9 Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. 10 For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? 11 So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. 12 When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.
1Cor 8:9:13 (NIV)

Being _____ is not the same thing as being _____.

OVERVIEW

- Knowledge puffs up, love builds up (vv. 1-3)
- There is only one God (vv.4-6)
- Conscience and freedom. (vv.7-8)
- Love is greater than freedom. (vv.9-13)

IMPLICATIONS

1. We must examine what is _____ us.
   Romans 12:1-2

2. We must consider who's _____ us.
   Galatians 5:13-15

3. We must choose _____ over our _____.
   Romans 13:8-10; John 15:13

TALK IT OVER

Because we believe that the sharing of our ideas and beliefs enhances our spiritual growth in ways teaching alone cannot - we encourage you to join a small group at Sunridge and discuss some of the following questions.

Have you ever been in a disagreement where proving you were right became your primary objective? How did your desire to be right affect the conversation or relationship? What might you do differently today?

The Corinthian culture was fixated on Greek philosophy and having spiritual insights others didn't possess. Paul writes, "Knowledge puffs up, while love builds up" (1 Corinthians 8:1). What are some ways people use their knowledge to build themselves up? What does it look like to use what we know to build others up instead? Who have you seen do this well?

Paul describes believers whose past experiences with idol worship affected their conscience (1 Corinthians 8:7–8). How can our backgrounds and experiences affect what we believe is right or wrong? Share a time when your conscience about something changed as you grew or gained new understanding.

In I Corinthians 8:11, Paul gives a powerful reminder that Christ died for our weaker brothers and sisters. Where might love require you to limit your freedom for the spiritual good of someone else? Who in your life might you need to ask, "What does love require of me?"

GIVE (DONATE)

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IMPLICATIONS

1. We must examine what is SHAPING us.
   Romans 12:1-2

2. We must consider who's WATCHING us.
   Galatians 5:13-15

3. We must choose LOVE over our RIGHTS.
   Romans 13:8-10; John 15:13

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