

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

1 CORINTHIANS: A BEAUTIFUL MESS

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

May 9, 2021

DISCUSSION 1: FREE TO LOVE (1 Cor. 9)

1. Read 1 Cor. 9:19 and Gal. 5:13. How can we use some of our freedoms to serve others (in ways that we likely would not choose)? What are specific examples of how we might do this today?
2. What are some unbiblical ways someone might practice discipline? What are biblical ways to practice discipline and self-control (1 Cor. 9:24-27)?
3. How do you think 1 Cor. 10 connects to chapter 9? Why is noting those connections important?

DISCUSSION 2: WILDERNESS WARNINGS

1. Read 1 Cor. 10:6, 11. How can we draw from and learn from the Old Testament as Paul suggests here?
2. What were some of the ways God provided for or blessed Israel in the wilderness? What were some of the ways Israel sinned against God in the wilderness? How might Paul want the church to see both of these (God's blessing and Israel's sin) as a reminder of God's goodness to them but also how they should be on guard against temptation still?
3. Following up the last question, how can we both recall God's goodness to us as (individually and as a church) while also being on guard against the ways we might be tempted toward idolatry and sin?

DISCUSSION 3: IDOLATRY & TEMPTATION

1. What is idolatry?
2. Read 1 Cor. 10:10. How might our grumbling reveal some of the idols of our heart?
3. Why is pride so spiritually dangerous (1 Cor. 10:12)? How can we cultivate humility and fight pride?
4. How do you apply 1 Cor. 10:13 when tempted? It might help to think of one or two areas in your life where you feel tempted (whether toward pride, immorality, greed, covetousness, unkindness, fear, idolatry, etc.), and then consider how you might turn to this verse as a promise and warning.
5. Why do we need to remember God's faithfulness (1 Cor. 10:13) as we fight temptation?
6. What is one area of temptation you're facing today where others can pray for you and encourage you in the fight?