



CALVARY CHAPEL

Knowledge Defers to Love

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5/25/2025

1 Corinthians 8:1-3 Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. *2* Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. *3* But whoever loves God is known by God.

- Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.
- Knowledge is good, but love is better.
- When knowledge influences us to become inflated, we’re more concerned about being right than being loving.
- Knowledge never supersedes love & compassion.

1 Corinthians 8:4-9 So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.” *5* For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), *6* yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. *7* But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. *8* But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. *9* Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

- If we allow our knowledge to hinder us from loving people, then our knowledge becomes a weakness not a strength.

Romans 14:14, 23 I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean.... *23* But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

1 Corinthians 8:10-13 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.

- Call **321.574.6970** if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.