

# ADULTING



Growing Up in Christ

# How Love Limits and Leverages Our Liberty

*1 Corinthians 8-9*



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# The Problem

Can a Christian eat meat that has been sacrificed in pagan temples as an act of worship, and is now being sold in the marketplace or served to them as a meal?

“Strong” Christians, Yes

“Weak” Christians, No



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# The First Principle

## Love Self-Limits Person Freedom

- Knowledge says, “Idols are nothing.”
- Love says, “People are not nothing!”

Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up!

Just because you can doesn't mean you should!

Love voluntarily restrains freedom for others' good.



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# Paul's Personal Examples From Life

- I planted the church
- I sacrificed (lived on little) in order to serve you
- I practiced celibacy to be free to travel to you
- I worked while I was preaching so I wasn't a burden
- I voluntarily limited MY rights for your spiritual good!

Now YOU should do the same for others



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# The Second Principle

## Love Flexes Freedom For Others

- To the Jews I became like a Jew
- To those under the Law, I lived like I was under Law
- To those outside the Law, I lived like I am outside Law

Be clear:

We change our PREFERENCES, not our CONVICTIONS



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# The BIG Point Paul Is Making Who Are You Living For?

I am not my own, I belong to Christ, and I exist for  
others!

Philippians 2:3-8



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# 3 Questions and 2 Challenges

## 3 Questions

Where do I need to limit my freedom for another believer?

Where do I need to flex my freedom to reach someone for Christ?

Am I more committed to my rights—Or others' needs?

## 2 Challenges

Lay down one freedom for another's growth.

Adjust one preference to meet someone where they are for Christ.



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