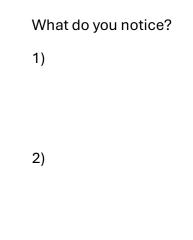
1Spending Time with Jesus in I Corinthians Chapters 8-9

Invite Jesus to speak to you as you read this week.

1st: read I or II Corinthians (read the one you didn't read last week) all the way through, the whole book, imagining you are Paul saying this to the church in Corinth. To help you remember and ENJOY what you are reading, read out loud for at least 15 minutes each time (longer would be even better.)

2nd: read chapter 8-9 by themselves to remember what they are about.

3rd: read chapter 8-9 again and write down what stands out to you.



Third read through, answer questions as you go:

I Corinthians 8:1-13

3)

What would you do if the only restaurants in town were also part of a temple to an idol? Yep, that's how it was in Corinth.

You are invited to your best friend's 16th birthday party at a restaurant. They will be feasting in an idol's temple. The main course will be meat that was first sacrificed to that idol. What do you do?

Pagan priests would sell left over sacrificed meat...to the butcher shops in town. So when you buy meat, you would have no idea if it had been offered to an idol before it hit the market's shelves. Do you buy some to cook for a special dinner with your family?

It was an honor when a friend invited you over for dinner, especially considering there was a famine going on. What would you do if they brought out a plate with a juicy steak on it? You know it cost them a LOT. But it could be part of an animal that was sacrificed to an idol...

Hopefully you see why the Corinthians are asking Paul follow. He gives them wisdom – a way to think through		_	
"We all possess knowledge" is in quotes. So is "An ido God but one." Who is Paul quoting?			
Wisdom tip #1: Knowledge isn't all it's cracked up to b they something do not yet	e. It as they	_ up (remember	.) Those who (vv 1-2)
Wisdom tip #2: Love up. So when Christians make decisions, we should stop to up Christ and His church?	o think: am I pu	ffing myself up or	am I building
What does Paul mean in v. 5 that "there are so-called รู	gods, whether i	n heaven or on ea	rth"?
What does it mean that for us there is but one God, the whom we live? What does it mear through whom all things came and through whom we lithese statements? What is different?	n that there is b	ut <u>one Lord</u> , Jesus	Christ,
Imagine a person who grew up going into sinister, opposed to be powerful (but also expensive animal and participated in dark ritualsbed notice them. Now this person is a follower of the Lord still, when they see meat, they remember the darknes	so greedy and e cause maybe th Jesus Christ an	ven cruel.) They on his god would just hid is free from idol	ffered an happen to
What might they think if they saw a mature Christian e that could destroy them?	ating in an idol'	's temple? What m	night they do
What do you think of when you hear "stumbling block"	'? Can you drav	v it here?	

What rights do we have today that, if we choose to exercise them, could become a stumbling block to others?					
If we exercise those rights, even though we know that another Christian will struggle because of our choice, who are we sinning against? (vv. 11-12) and					
What should motivate us to set aside our rights, if needed, for the sake of the weak believer? (v. 1)					
I Corinthians 9:1-18					
Does Paul know what it is like to give up his freedoms for the sake of others? If so, can you name some of them?					
Think back to Acts and the story of when Jesus appeared to Paul. Jesus tells Ananias that He is sending Paul to the (Acts 9:15) Gentiles grew up worshiping other gods. He will have to help those churches understand God's plan for every aspect of their lives. In this letter he's explained God's plan for sex within marriage (chapters 5-7) and how to help other believers live in a city full of idols (chapter 8).					
So Paul will have to give up different freedoms from Cephas (Peter) and the other apostles who mostly preach to Jews because the mission field God is giving him is so different from theirs.					
What rights has he (and Barnabas in one case) given up?					
v. 4 the right to					
v. 5 the right to					
v.6 the right to NOT for a(in other words, to be paid for teaching so					
that they didn't have to also work at another job.)					
But some in Corinth think that because he is different from Cephas and the others, he isn't as much of an apostle as they are. He's seen as 2^{nd} best.					
Could you make some guesses as to why they would be challenging him?					

_	12) He		lone to teach them about Jesus. What rather than		
What does "hinder" me	ean?				
Paul says in v. 16 that h	e is compelled t	o preach. What does	s that mean?		
What is his reward? How big of a deal is it to					
I Corinthians 9:19-27					
that pointed to Jesus a	nd was fulfilled i Paul says that he	n His life, death and is "under Christ's la	the law in the Old Testament, the law resurrection. "Those not having the law" w." What did Jesus say when he was		
Do you remember what the "new commandment" was that Jesus gave his disciples after he washed their feet at the Last Supper? (see John 13)					
Could this be what Paul means by Christ's law? If so, which would be easier to follow – the Old Testament law or Christ's law?					
Why does Paul say he becomes all things to all people? "So that by possible means, I might" If you could talk to Paul, do you think he would say the sacrifices he made were worth it? What blessings did he (and will he) share in (v. 23)?					
Remember, Corinth ha	-		ompetition was fierce. Like an athlete ed to be ALL in!		
What is the prize await	ing us?				
Are you surprised that body's desires and find		•	ng to others, he could surrender to his hy or why not?		

I Corinthians Chapter 8 pg. 4