

# Study Guide for the Week of August 10, 2008

*This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use! Message manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).*

**Monday—Read 1 Corinthians chapter 7.** Paul's instructions regarding marriage respond to specific problems in the church in Corinth. His instructions don't answer all our questions, but provide basic principles regarding marriage. Much of what Paul teaches here is influenced by his belief that Jesus would soon return, this is what Paul meant by saying "the time is short." What are the benefits of the married life and what are the benefits of the single life? What are the challenges of each life? In verse 24 Paul reminds us to stay faithful to what God has called us to. What has God called you to?

**Tuesday—Read 1 Corinthians chapter 8.** Here Paul begins a lengthy response to questions regarding eating meat that had come from pagan sacrifices. This may seem to be unrelated to us, but it relevant to our freedom to choose certain actions and how we might voluntarily abstain because we're motivated by love. What freedoms should we be willing to limit so as not to harm someone else? What does Paul mean by saying "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up"?

**Wednesday—Read 1 Corinthians chapter 9.** Why is Paul concerned about the fact that he could receive pay for his work, but doesn't? Paul repeatedly talks about winning or saving as many people as possible. What does he mean by this? What is Paul referring to when he talks about running a race and winning a prize?

**Thursday—Read 1 Corinthians chapter 10.** What blessings does Paul say the ancient Israelites received? What lesson is he teaching about those blessings? What sins did they commit and what were the consequences? How are they relevant to us today? Again Paul talks about freedom and restraint? What attitude toward life does Paul point to in verse 31? How can this concept become a way of life for us?

**Friday—Read 1 Corinthians chapter 11.** Paul is addressing specific issues in Corinth. What does he say about public worship? How do we look at the male-dominating description of Paul in marriage in light of chapter 7 and the mutuality described there? Reflect on Paul's words about communion. What were some of this issues surrounding communion for the Corinthians?