

Decisions, Decisions
Acts 1:13-26

Review:

1. We must seek God's will in prayer whenever we have difficult decisions to make
2. We must try to be on one accord, especially in times of great confusion and fear
3. The Scriptures must be our sufficient rule of faith and practice especially when choices are not obvious
4. God is completely sovereign, even over the worst injustices and during the greatest calamities

Go Further: Read I Corinthians 8

1. Where it comes to the question of whether or not Christians should eat food that had been used in idol-worshipping ceremonies, how much knowledge does Paul say He has?
2. What does Paul say is so dangerous about having a lot of knowledge? What does he say can help to lessen this danger?
3. In verse 2, what does Paul say is true about people who think they know everything?
4. What does Paul say is true in verse 3 of those who love God? How can God love those whom He knows so thoroughly?
5. What does Paul affirm about the reality of idols in verse 4?
6. What sorts of gods do you think Paul is talking about in verse 5? What kinds of false gods do people worship today?
7. How does Paul describe a Christian's relationship with God in verse 6? How should being involved in this kind of relationship deter us from being involved in the worship of false gods?
8. Verse 7 talks about Christians who don't yet have a full grasp on the knowledge of God that Paul describes in verses 4 through 6. Why would it be dangerous for people without such certainty to eat food that had been ceremonially offered to a statue of a false god?
9. In verse 8, Paul comments on the reality of offering food to statues. What conclusion does he draw about these idolatrous ceremonies?
10. In verse 9, what harm does Paul say that the use of our liberty can bring to others?
11. What particular example does Paul give in verse 10 of using our liberty in a way that could hurt others?
12. In verse 11, what kind of harm does Paul say that our superior knowledge can bring to someone else?
13. How does Paul say in verse 12 that our liberty can actually become sinful for us?
14. What conclusion does Paul reach in verse 13? What does he freely decide not to do?

Apply:

1. Can you think of a time when you stopped doing something to keep from leading someone else into temptation? Was the activity you gave up sinful in itself? How did your forbearance change your relationship with the person you were trying to help?
2. How might you need to limit your own liberty today in order to keep someone else from being hurt?
3. Does this chapter help you as you make decisions about how to respond to the current COVID crisis? If so, how?