

**Sunday – March 11, 2018**

**Pastor David Higa**  
**Being Sensitive to Conscience**  
**1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

*But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. [1 Corinthians 8:12-13]*

I've often wondered what it will be like when we stand before Jesus *in that day* and see Him face-to-face. Paul gave us a bit of insight in 1 Cor 3:13-15 when he described the bema seat judgment of God. There will be a day when Christians will give an account for what they did in this life of faith. It will not be a judgment unto condemnation but one of accountability. The Christian will be saved but his works will be tested through fire.

This is the backdrop from which 1 Corinthians 8 should be understood. What is our motivation for doing things in this life of faith? Is it for self or for God and others? This brings us back to a key theme in this letter; the wisdom of this world versus the wisdom of God. Paul wrote that "The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." This is fundamental to understanding *Being Sensitive to Conscience*.

The "Now" in v.8:1 of our text addresses another question brought to Paul in a previous letter. The first question was about marriage and divorce, and singleness [Chap 7]. Paul now deals with "things offered to idols." And even though Chap 8 goes into detail about food, the broader word used is "things" [anything] that can cause someone to stumble. This can be *things* like decoration trinkets, pictures, plants, and even a Christmas tree.

The lesson is that there is nothing about food or decoration that is sinful in itself. "Concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one." [v.8:4] "However, there is not in everyone that knowledge." [v.8:7] And here lies the key to the issue, "...there is not in everyone that knowledge." Not every Christian understands their freedom; not all are mature in their faith.

So for conscience sake, you who understand Christian liberty should be sensitive to the one who doesn't. In short, if at a meal a weaker brother forbids pork, then you as a mature believer should forsake eating pork. It's a simple matter of being sensitive to conscience toward another.

The key thing to remember is that one day we will all give an account in this area of "conscience." We would be wise to forfeit some of our freedoms for the greater cause of Christ.

**Weekly Ministries:**

**Sun Morning Services** – at Rosemont ES w/ Spanish translation.  
7:30 am  
9:30 am with Children's ministry.  
11:30 am with Children's ministry & Teens ministry [6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grades].

**Sun Evening Service** – HT Office. *Joshua*.  
6:30 pm with Children's ministry.

**Mon Evening** Men's Fellowship – at HT Church Office.  
6:30 pm Bible Study in Genesis.

**Tue Evening** Ladies Fellowship – at HT Church Office.  
7:00 pm Bible study discussing Sun sermons in 1 Corinthians.

**Wed Afternoon** Elderly Ministry – at Hollywood Royale.  
3:30 pm See Carl for details.

**Wed Evening** Service – at Rosemont ES with Children's ministry.  
7:30 pm Old Testament Bible Study – *2 Kings*.

**Sat Afternoon** Elderly Ministry – at City View Villas.  
2:00 pm See Carl for details.

**Worship Services:**

**Sundays at 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.**  
**Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.**

Rosemont Avenue Elementary School  
421 N. Rosemont Ave., Los Angeles, 90026

**Sunday Evening at 6:30 p.m.**  
Church Office - The Hidden Treasure Bookshop  
1822 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, 90026

**Announcements**

- **Echo Park Children's Outreach, March 17**  
Please join us this Sat, Mar 17, at 10 am for a children's outreach at Echo Park. We will be joining a team from CC South Bay. Mark this on your calendar. It's going to be a lot of fun!
- **Saturday VA Outreach at the VA Hospital**  
If you would like to pray over and serve our military Veterans at the VA Hospital please join us every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at the VA Hospital in West Los Angeles. The next one is this Sat, Mar 17, **at 2 pm**. See Mike Abad or Sal Ela for details.
- **Weekly Bible Study Fellowship**  
Please be sure to participate in one or more of our weekly fellowships listed in the middle column of this bulletin. Regular fellowship in smaller groups is important!



The Hidden Treasure Bible Bookshop & Boutique is open for email & phone orders!  
Call 213.413.3865 or email  
hiddentreasure.ctr@gmail.com.

**Audio messages at:** www.ccEchoPark.com. CDs for \$1.

**Daily Bible Reading** 03/13 – 03/19: Joshua 9 – Judges 5. Reading plan at Info Table.

**Spanish Translation** is available during our services using small remote earpiece units. Please come to the Information Table.

**Prayer Requests:** We are available for prayer right after the service or you can fill out a **PrayerCard** and drop it in the offering box.

As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones and pagers during service.