

# SURRENDER YOUR RIGHTS

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

How do you feel about surrendering your rights? Surrendering our rights means we are choosing to love God and others in our response even if it looks like we are on the losing end. Sometimes, because of our knowledge, we feel we have the right to be right. But in 1 Corinthians 8 and 9, the apostle Paul shares how and why we are actually on the winning end when we surrender our rights.

## TO BUILD OTHERS UP (1 Corinthians 8:1-3)

Paul tells the Corinthian church about the delicate balance between knowledge and love. He acknowledges the value of knowledge but warns against the arrogance it can breed (1 Corinthians 8:1). Knowledge, while not inherently negative, can become destructive when it leads to pride, tearing others down instead of uplifting them. Paul emphasizes that the right kind of knowledge, one coupled with love, is transformative and enriching (1 Timothy 1:5, 1 Corinthians 13:1-2). It should inspire believers to follow Christ and help others do the same.

To build others up, we must do so in love. To those who will listen, we must **TEACH IT**. To those who will argue, we must **SEEK TO UNDERSTAND**. To those who will disagree, we must **LEARN TO BE GRACIOUS**. Ultimately, Paul emphasizes that in our love for God, what truly matters is not just knowledge but being known by God personally (1 Corinthians 8:3).

## TO PROTECT OTHERS (1 Corinthians 8:4-13)

In Paul's time, debates revolved around three practices: observing Jewish holidays, drinking wine, and consuming meat sacrificed to idols (v.4). One faction believed that eating such meat equated to idol worship. Paul clarified that there are no other gods but the one true God (v.5-6). Today, we wrestle with similar questions (such as alcohol consumption, attire, entertainment choices, etc.) Some believers possess a "weak" conscience, easily stumbling when others engage in specific activities around them (v.7-

8). Therefore, those of us who feel liberated in such matters must be cautious not to cause others to falter (v.9-10).

It is crucial for all Christians to grow in maturity. The less mature ("weak") believers need to mature in their understanding, while the more mature ones should support and uplift them, as emphasized in Romans 14:1-3. To protect our fellow believers, it is paramount to abstain from doing any action that could cause them to stumble, even if it might not affect one personally (v.13). By embracing this principle, the Christian community fosters an environment of empathy, selflessness, and love, ensuring that all members grow together in spiritual maturity. "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity and love."

## FOR THE GOSPEL (1 Corinthians 9)

In 1 Corinthians 9, Paul recognizes the "rights" he has as an apostle but chooses not to exercise them fully. He presents five compelling reasons why he has the right to certain privileges as an apostle: common practices, scriptural precepts, intrinsic justice, Jewish customs, and Christ's command (1 Corinthians 9:3-14). Yet, despite these valid claims, he willingly surrenders his rights because his ultimate goal is to share the gospel effectively. For him, his reward comes from preaching the gospel, a task he sees not as an obligation but as a calling (1 Corinthians 9:16-18). His willingness to surrender his rights arises from a deep desire to win souls for the Lord and an understanding of the gospel's power to transform lives.

Surrendering our rights for the gospel changes everything. It fosters a deep well of knowledge that overflows into love and compassion. When the gospel is our foundation, we willingly set aside personal rights for the sake of others. We become attuned to the needs of those around us, reflecting the sacrificial love of Christ for us on the cross. It is not merely about what we gain but what we can give – sharing the transformative power of the gospel, the greatest gift one can ever receive!

## LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:23

## DISCUSS THIS MESSAGE

What is the proper mindset for using knowledge to build others up?

What are some things "others can" but you may choose not to do for the sake of protecting others' conscience? Is there something you need to change?

Who is God challenging you to share the gospel to and what will it cost to do it?

DOWNLOAD THIS  
CHRONICLE ONLINE!

[ccf.org.ph/chronicle/](http://ccf.org.ph/chronicle/)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S  
4WS EVERY MONDAY!

[ccf.org.ph/4ws/](http://ccf.org.ph/4ws/)

# STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

## WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

### Is There Hope for Me?

with Cindy Soriano

October 12, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women

 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

## NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

### United in Jesus: Living Out the Lessons on 1 Corinthians

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12

 for ages 7-12

# JOIN AND PARTICIPATE

Come together with the community to learn and grow, or to retreat and recharge!

## MOVE YDC 2023 Grounded: Discipleship in a Woke Culture

FACE TO FACE CONFERENCE

October 30 - November 1, CCF Center

REGULAR RATES:

PHP1,200 for regular tickets

PHP1,000 for commitment card holders

Get your tickets at [moveydc.org](https://moveydc.org)

## Singles Sports Camp

OPEN TO ALL SINGLES

November 10-12, MMRC

REGULAR RATE: PHP4,500

**Registration runs until October 27 only**

Register at [ccfsports.org/register](https://ccfsports.org/register)

# Exploring a deeper connection with God?

Let's chat at the **Welcome Center,** 2<sup>ND</sup> floor lobby!

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

### Join GLC's NEW Training!

**GLC Level 1 Face-to-Face**

[OPEN TO ALL]

**October 8, 2023, Sunday**

- Book 1: One-by-One, 10:45 AM, Room 4A
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines, 1:45 PM, Room 4A

**GLC Level 1 – Zoom [OPEN TO ALL]**

**October 8, 2023, Wednesday at 7:30 PM**

- Book 1: One-by-One
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

Go to [bit.ly/GLCTraining2023](https://bit.ly/GLCTraining2023) to register

**GLC Level 2 – Face-to-Face**

[OPEN TO ALL]

**October 8, 2023, Sunday**

**at 1:00 PM, Room 2A**

Book 7: Family Life

**GLC Level 2 – Zoom [OPEN TO ALL]**

**October 12, 2023, Thursday at 7:30 PM**

Book 7: Family Life

Go to [bit.ly/Book7FamilyLife2023](https://bit.ly/Book7FamilyLife2023)

to register

**GLC Level 3 Lead – Zoom**

[OPEN TO ALL]

**October 12, 2023, Thursday at 7:00 PM**

- **A Study on the Letters of John: Live the Impossible Life**

Go to [bit.ly/ImpossibleLife](https://bit.ly/ImpossibleLife) to register

To know more about other

GLC trainings and available resources,

visit [glc.ccf.org.ph](https://glc.ccf.org.ph)

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

## God brought you here for His purpose.

### 1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9*

### 2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence.*

– Romans 3:23

### 3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.*

– Romans 5:8

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6*

### 4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9*

### 5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*



SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

**SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE**

5:00 PM

**SUNDAY SERVICES ENGLISH**

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

**FILIPINO**

**ONLINE LIVESTREAMS**

 [ccf.org.ph](https://ccf.org.ph)  [ccfmain](https://ccfmain)  [ccfmainTV](https://ccfmainTV)

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/](https://ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.