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**Sermon Title:** “Liberty & Love*”*

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

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Sunday, March 21, 2021

**Introduction:**

In addressing the issue of eating of food offered to idols, Paul provides us the opportunity to consider our own thoughts and behavior towards those with varied perspectives within the church.

**The problems with knowledge:**

* **Knowledge puffs up.** (**v. 1**, 1 Peter 5:5; Psalms 101:5; 1 Corinthians 13:4)
* **Knowledge is insufficient.** (**v. 2-5**; 1 Corinthians 13:1)

**The superiority of love:**

* **Love personalizes my perspective.** (**v. 6-7**; Philippians 2:3-8)
* **Love clarifies my thinking.** (**v. 7-12**; Colossians 3:9-10)

***Knowledge that is refined by love***

 ***reflects the humility and beauty of Christ.***

* **Love summons my self-control.** (**v. 13**, 1 Corinthians 13:5)

**Conclusion:** *"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*

 (Galatians 5:13-14)

**Questions to Consider:**

* In what ways can knowledge lead to arrogance?
* How is knowledge insufficient in dealing with other people?
* Love does not change the truth, but how can it change your thinking towards another person?
* What are some ways that love calls on you to practice self-control in the church? In our homes?