

MESSAGE.

1 Corinthians 11:1–16 teaches that Christian freedom is never meant to be exercised selfishly. Paul reminds believers that true worship is not about self-expression but about glorifying God's design. Although men and women are equal in value, God has established distinct roles that reflect His order and bring Him glory. In Corinth, cultural symbols communicated honor, marriage, and allegiance, so Paul instructed believers to use their freedom in ways that removed unnecessary barriers to the Gospel. Followers of Jesus are called to willingly limit personal preferences when doing so helps others clearly see Christ. True freedom is found in joyful submission to God's design and is ultimately expressed by living for His glory rather than our own.

PRAYER.

Father, thank You for the freedom You have given through Jesus Christ. Help me never use that freedom selfishly, but instead to love others and honor You. Teach me to live in a way that reflects Your design, protects the witness of the Gospel, and points people to Christ. Give me wisdom to know when to set aside my preferences for the sake of others, just as Jesus willingly humbled Himself in obedience to the Father. May my life bring You glory in everything I do. Amen.

ENGAGE.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:1–16

- Why is understanding the cultural background of Corinth important for interpreting this passage?
- The sermon states, "True worship is not self-expression, it is glorifying God's design." What does that mean in practical terms?
- How can misunderstanding Christian freedom lead to selfish living?
- Paul willingly limited his freedom for the sake of the Gospel. When have you had to set aside a personal preference to help someone else?
- How are honor and shame viewed differently in our culture compared to Corinth? Why does that matter?
- What are some freedoms Christians have today that should still be exercised with wisdom and love?
- How does Jesus' submission to the Father become the ultimate example of using freedom for God's glory?
- Before acting, reacting, posting, or making a decision, the sermon encouraged asking: "Will this make it easier for people to see Jesus in me?" How would that question change your daily decisions?
- What is one area this week where God may be calling you to lovingly limit your freedom for the sake of someone else?