

WHAT IS THE CONSCIENCE?

1 Corinthians 8.1-13

WHAT IS IT AND WHAT IS ITS ROLE?

Conscience Defined: Mentioned 30 times in the New Testament, the conscience is “what you believe is right or wrong at any given time.”

A Few Basics:

- Your conscience is yours, and no one else’s
- No two consciences are alike
- No one’s conscience is perfectly aligned with God’s will
- No one’s conscience is perfectly aligned with God’s will
- You can damage your conscience in two ways:
 - You can become insensitive
 - You can become oversensitive
- Your conscience can change for the better

Two Important Principles:

1. Obey it! **Romans 14.23**
 - a. Disobeying your conscience, even if the conscience is wrong, *not* because what you did was wrong, but your intent was to do wrong.
2. Your conscience is not the Lord. Making it so would be idolatry. **Acts 10.9-16**

WEAK VS. STRONG

Romans 14.1-8

Ironically, a weak conscience is more active, easier to accuse of wrongdoing by others and self. It is easily offended and put on edge, and too easily wounded.

People with a weak conscience tend to fret about things that should provoke no guilt in a mature Christian who knows God’s truth.

-John MacArthur

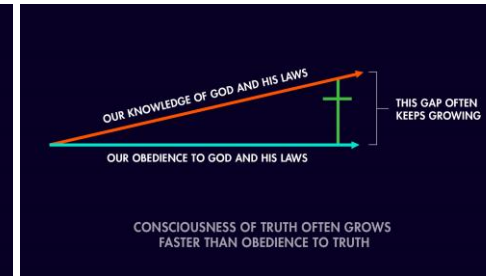
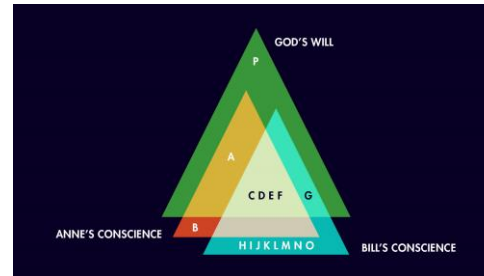
FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 8.1-13, 9.22, 23

Matters of conscience transcend just mere opinion about right and wrong morally. The conflict here was largely due to the fact that Paul came into Corinth and sought to bring Jews and Gentiles together into one church. But Jews and Gentiles come from wildly different cultures that had wildly different viewpoints.

It could have been much easier for Paul to say, “you know what, it’d be better to start a church for Jews and a church for Gentiles.” But this went against the whole point and goal and heart of the Gospel. Paul knew his mission, even as a Jew, an ex-Pharisee, was to see the church become one. That there would be no dividing wall between Jew and Gentile, but rather that these two wildly different cultures would worship the one true God alongside each other.

NOTES:



ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We’d love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens’ ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

1 Timothy 2:5-6

⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **1 Corinthians 8.1-13**. What stands out to you in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday? _____

What are areas of conscience that you differ with others you are close to? _____

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

What Gospel truths, from this passage or elsewhere, remind you of the right context to give you proper perspective on your conscience? _____

Repent and Confess

Have you been judging others for not sharing the same view as you? Have you been arrogant or prideful, looking down on others? _____

Ask for Provision

Are there certain areas of conscience you think you might know that you may actually be wrong in? What do you need to ask God for? More clarity? The wisdom to pursue a change in conscience? _____

Your Life Mission

God has brought many people into your life. Some of them may have parts of their life that make it difficult for you to converse with or hang out with. The Jews and Gentiles had major road blocks, but Paul knew that in Christ, that wall of division could be torn down and they could worship together as one.

What conversations or social settings are coming up that you might be wanting to avoid or get out of, but may actually be something that God would want to use you in? Do you need prayer for your conscience to be ready for those conversations for the sake of the Gospel?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



LIFE MISSION

C H U R C H

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



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1 Corinthians 8:1-13 // July 15, 2018

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

