

## 1 Cor 6:12-13

***All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.***

I like Chilidogs, and I remember one time that I had the urge for a chilidog. Not just any ordinary chilidog that you get from a fast food place or a restaurant, but a chilidog I make myself at home. So I went to the store and bought all the stuff that I needed.

Now when I make these chilidogs, I use good hotdogs, you know the kind that plump up when you cook them with beef (Not chicken or turkey). The only requirement for the chili I use is that it has to be without beans, I like beans, but you wouldn't like to be around me after I had them.

So I cooked the hotdogs and chili, put some Miracle Whip on the bun (not mayonnaise). Then I put the hotdog in the bun and put some sweet relish on this (the Miracle Whip and sweet relish make for a sweet taste with the spicy of the chili... Yum). Afterwards I put the chili on the hotdog, then some catsup and finally topped it off with some cheese. You may think that this doesn't sound to good, especially if you are reading this in the morning. But try it for lunch or dinner before you knock it. But there is more, you have to have barbequed potato chips with this, and finally a nice cold glass of milk.

So why am I telling you all of this? Think of today's devotional.

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It was ok for me to want, and even have this chilidog. It's not a sinful thing, but it could have been. "How so?" you may be wondering.

Well, if I drove 100 miles an hours to get to the store because I just had to have it now, or ran over anyone that got in my way, because I just had to have it. Or was rude to the store teller because I wanted to get home, because I just had to have it. Or if I would have spent my last \$10, because I just had to have it. Then my liking of chilidogs would have become a sin, because I would put my own cravings or fleshly desires before others needs, including my families.

So, what are the things that you desire? They may not be sinful, but depending on how you try to get them, they could turn into sin. ***but I will not be brought under the power of any.***

I could have made it through the day without the childdog and I would have survived. You also can make it through the day without what you want, and if you have that frame of mind and do not sin to get it, then it may be a lawful thing for you to have. ***“All things are lawful for me”***

The question is, is it truly helpful to you or someone else? ***“all things are not helpful”***

† **Psalm 19:12-13 (NLT2)** *How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.*

† **Galatians 5:16-17** *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.*