

1 Corinthians 8:10

For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols?

Reading today's verse, what if we changed "*eating in an idol's temple*" to "eating in a bar or club"? It would read something like:

"For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in a bar or club, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to the world?"

Yet we don't think of those things. Sure we may be strong, and we think that we can eat in a bar. But even in a bar, it's not about the food, but what we hear and experience in the bar, which are, profanities, crude disgusting jokes, sexual conversations with men (and women) on the hunt for their next sexual encounter. Even the music played is not always what a Christian should be listening to.

But let's get away from the bar scene and look at something closer to, and even in a lot of homes, which is video games. How many of these games are full of killing, blood being splattered across the TV screen, vulgar language, women with large breasts hanging out of their tight tops. And we are doing what, playing these games with our kids and even grandkids? We say in a sense, "*Sorry God, I don't have times to read Your word today, because I have to kill all of these people in a video game instead.*"

Yet how many see us doing these things, be it our children, grandchildren, other adults who are both saved and not saved? If Jesus were here, would we invite Him over to play that video games with us?

Once again, these things (Eating in a bar or playing Mature video games) may not be a struggle for us, but are they a struggle for those around us? Is eating in a bar so much better than eating in a regular restaurant; so much better that it will cause a brother or sister to stumble and fall back into alcoholism or the bar lifestyle again?

People cry and complaint about shootings in school, while they are shooting and killing people in a video game. "*I hate guns and how they kill our children... Get out of the way, I can't see the TV screen. Can't you see that I'm trying to shoot and kill these guys.*"

Something to think about.

† **1 Corinthians 8:10 (MSG)** *For instance, say you flaunt your freedom by going to a banquet thrown in honor of idols, where the main course is meat sacrificed to idols. Isn't there great danger if someone still struggling over this issue, someone who looks*

up to you as knowledgeable and mature, sees you go into that banquet? The danger is that he will become terribly confused—maybe even to the point of getting mixed up himself in what his conscience tells him is wrong.