

## Love Rather Than Integrity

The questions in this file are based on pages 52—67 (section 5) of the essay “Paul among Jews and Gentiles” in Krister Stendahl’s book, *Paul Among Jews and Gentiles and Other Essays*.<sup>1</sup>

1. After several pages of “playing the Western game of introspection” Stendahl turns to what he sees as a more adequate way of reading First Corinthians 13. What specific statements in that chapter suggest to him that “the Western game of introspection” is not an adequate way to read the passage? (page 56)
2. What evidence does Stendahl offer *against* the view that Corinth was a particularly sinful city? (page 57)
3. How does Stendahl define Paul’s view of *love*? (57—58)
4. Paul addresses a wide variety of practical issues in First Corinthians. Which of these does Stendahl propose offers the clearest view of the relation between love and integrity, and why does he propose this? (59—60)
5. Read First Corinthians 6:12 and 10:23. What is the significance of these statements in terms of Paul’s overall argument in First Corinthians? (Compare page 60 of Stendahl’s article.)
6. What is the general principle that Paul used to determine when a person should insist on her/his rights and when not? (page 61)
7. Describe the point of view of “the strong” on the issue of food offered to idols, then describe the point of view of “the weak.” (page 60; First Corinthians 8—10; Romans 14)
8. What principle of ethical conduct governs Paul’s advice on a variety of issues in First Corinthians 8—10 including food offered to idols, but also the rights of an apostle? (60—61)
9. What potential problem does Paul’s principle raise for the later church? (61—62)
10. What passages from the Gospels support Paul’s choice of *love*—concern for the community—as the core value for the Jesus movement? (62—65)
11. How does Paul apply the principle of *love* to the issue of the communion meal? (65—67; First Corinthians 11:17—34)

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<sup>1</sup> Krister Stendahl, *Paul Among Jews and Gentiles and Other Essays* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1967), pages 1—77.

12. State Paul's principle of *love rather than integrity* as clearly as possible. Consult Stendahl's version on page 67, but put it in your own words.