

## **LADIES FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION**

### **LESSON FIVE: TEMPLE CARETAKERS HOW TO'S**

**by Sandy Harber**

**"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20**

Since November we have been talking about the ministry of the Holy Spirit, Who God the Father gave to indwell us when we accepted His free (to us) gift of salvation, provided by the precious blood of God the Son. One of our goals is to learn to be good caretakers of our body, the temple of the Holy Spirit. I originally had a list of 10 principles that can guide us in making good decisions in that regard. Sandy asked that I reduce the list to 7 principles since she's been gearing everything to the number 7, God's perfect number, the number of completion. So I modified the list and created an updated handout.

#### **4. Does it edify? I Corinthians 10:23b**

**"... all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not."**

"Edify" means "to build up." In the New Testament, it refers to the building up of the character of the believer through the promotion of spiritual growth. This is accomplished progressively through sound doctrinal teaching, patient application of the Word, and following the example of mature believers.

In this passage, Paul is still dealing with the problem of meat that was sacrificed to idols. In Corinth, such meat was sold in the marketplace (called "shambles" in v. 25). The believer saved out of paganism may inadvertently buy such meat to consume at home. Or, he may be offered such meat at the home of a friend who had invited him to dine (v. 27). Paul's advice is to avoid eating the meat if you know it was offered to idols for the sake of the fellow believer who may be offended. Galatians 5:13-14 exhorts us to apply the principle "love thy neighbor as thyself" when exercising your Christian liberty. Bottom line: avoid activities that do not promote the good of others.