

# In It for the Long Haul

## Gray Areas

Peter Salmon

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### 2 principles to govern our freedom:

- ➔ Principle of Love over Knowledge
- ➔ Principle of Brother over Self

### 3 questions to answer about gray areas:

- ➔ Is it beneficial?
- ➔ Is it necessary?
- ➔ Will it actually lead other, weaker, Christians into sin?

**Next Week:** In It for the Long Haul | 1 Corinthians 9

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

- **Welcome**
- **Weekly Vision Casting** o We encourage every person to use the gifts God has given them to serve the body of Christ. What are some ways that you are using your gifts to serve right now? Do you have any

questions about serving at Trinity?

- **Small Group Guidelines** (*if necessary*)

- **Warm Up Question**

- **Study: Head, Heart, and Hand Questions**

- **Personal Prayer Requests**

## **SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS**

**Warm Up Question:** Often we wonder about gray areas: Is it OK for a Christian to...? Take a slip of paper and write down your question. We will try answer them at the end. [Hand everyone a slip of paper and collect their questions once they have finished writing something down.]

**HEAD:** *These questions help us examine the Word.*

1. How would you define the word “liberty”?
2. Read Galatians 5:1 & 5:13, and Colossians 2:20-21. How would you define Christian liberty according to these verses?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 8. What should we take into consideration as we live out our freedoms and rights?
4. Is it right for the “weaker brother” to try to restrict our freedoms?
5. Is knowledge without love destructive to the body of Christ? Why or why not?

**HEART:** *These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.*

6. Paul says that he would be willing to “never again eat meat” out of love for his fellow Christians. How does this match up with the way you love your fellow Christians?
7. What is more important to you, your rights or your responsibilities?

**HAND:** *These questions help us bring truth and beliefs into our everyday life.*

8. [Carefully select a couple of the questions that you collected at the beginning. Ask your group to apply the principles discussed to evaluate what one should do. Depending on the group, this could take 5 minutes or 45 minutes, so be prepared to cut it short if you need to. You can always have people do more research outside of group and report back next week!]

