

Grounding *Principles*:

“**I have the right** to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “**I have the right** to do anything”—but not everything is constructive.

v23

Principle 1:

I am free in Jesus!

Freed from:

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, **everyone who sins is a slave to sin**.³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

John 8:34-36

For the **wages of sin is death**, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come **to obey from your heart** the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

Romans 6:17-18

The power & consequence of sin in our lives at work on the heart level.

Freed for:

Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, **so that** they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.’”

Exodus 5:1

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come **that they may have life, and have it to the full**.

John 10:10

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, **he wept over it**⁴² and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.

Luke 19:41-42

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often **I have longed** to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

Matthew 23:37

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, **serve one another humbly in love**.

Galatians 5:13

God intends for Christian freedom to further *our joy & others' good*.

Freed by:

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with **the precious blood of Christ**, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1 Peter 1:18-19

In him we have redemption **through his blood**, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace⁸ that he lavished on us.

Ephesians 1:7-8

They triumphed over him by **the blood of the Lamb** and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Revelation 12:11

The blood of Jesus *breaks every chain*.

I am free in Jesus; though I am a mess—I *am deeply loved & God is all powerful while astonishingly generous*.

“I have the right to do anything,” you say—**but not everything is beneficial**. “I have the right to do anything”—**but not everything is constructive**.

v23

Principle 2:

Just because something is good to me *doesn't mean it's good for me*.

“I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—**but I will not be mastered by anything**.

1 Corinthians 6:12

Principle 3:

I will not be ruled by anything or anyone *other than Jesus*.

No one should seek their own good, but **the good of others**.

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Principle 4:

People matter *more than* my personal comfort.

Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God—³³ even as I try to please everyone in every way. **For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many**, so that they may be saved.

v32-33

Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, **I will never eat meat again**, so that I will not cause them to fall.

1 Corinthians 8:13

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Philippians 2:6-8

Love **limits** liberty.

*Our Greatest **Problem**:*

Eat anything sold in the meat market without raising questions of conscience,²⁶ for, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.”

v25-26

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.”

1 Corinthians 10:6-7

When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, “**Come, make us gods who will go before us.** As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.”

Exodus 32:1

Satan uses Christian freedom to produce **Christian bondage**.

You’re free **but** ____.

*Guiding **Practices**:*

Consider **myself**.

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall! ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Self-examination is necessary for **faithful living**.

If an unbeliever invites you to a meal and you want to go, eat whatever is put before you without raising questions of conscience. ²⁸ But if someone says to you, “This has been offered in sacrifice,” then do not eat it, both for the sake of the one who told you and for the sake of

conscience. ²⁹ I am referring to the other person's conscience, not yours. For why is my freedom being judged by another's conscience? ³⁰ If I take part in the meal with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of something I thank God for?
v27-30

Consider my neighbor

I am referring to the other person's conscience, not yours. For why is my freedom being judged by another's conscience? ³⁰ If I take part in the meal with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of something I thank God for?
v29-30

Love adapts convictions to care well.

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.³² Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God—³³ even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. ¹ Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.
v31-11:1

Consider Jesus.