

GRAY AREAS

Understanding and applying our freedom as Christians

Liberty = Freedom from legalism

Liberty ≠ License

Liberty = Freedom to love and serve

Four Critical Questions:

Is it good for me?

(1 Cor 6:12)

Is it good for others ?

(Rom 14:21; 15:1-3; 1 Cor 8:9; 1 Cor 9:19-23)

Does it promote unity in the church ?

(Rom 14:17-19)

Does it bring honor to God?

(1 Cor 6:19b-20; 10:31)

For Life Group Discussion

Various Scriptures

1. What is on your list? As a “good Christian,” what are the things you will not wear, watch, or do, even though they are not specifically addressed in the Bible? Why are those things important to you?
2. Are you drawn more toward list-keeping (legalism) or unrestrained freedom (license)? Has this message helped you move more toward the center? How?
3. Read 1 Cor 10:24 and Phil 2:3-4. Does Paul really mean what he is saying? Or is this unrealistic idealism? How are you doing so far?
4. Read 1 Cor 6:12. Have you found this to be true? Have you ever limited your personal freedom to protect yourself from harm or addiction? How? What was the result?
5. Read Rom 14:21, 14:3; 1 Cor 8:9 and 9:19-20. Whose responsibility is it to adjust their view of freedom, the weaker person or the stronger person? Have you ever been in a situation where this was necessary? What happened?
6. Read 1 Cor 6:10-20 and 1 Cor 10:31. What do you think it means to “honor God with your body” and to “eat and drink” to the glory of God? Can you think of specific ways that you carry out these commands?