

# Christ & Culture:

Engaging the world, remaining faithful to Christ.

Today's Topic: **Entertainment & Freedom in Christ**

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BI: **"All things" are permissible in Christ.**

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**Q: Is this a true statement?**

*Mark 7:5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"<sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "**Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,***

***"This people honors me with their lips,  
but their heart is far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."***

***<sup>8</sup>You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men."***

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***<sup>14</sup>And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him."<sup>17</sup> And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. <sup>18</sup>And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, <sup>19</sup>since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup>And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. <sup>21</sup>For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup>coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."***

**Q: Are all things really permissible in Christ?**

*1 Corinthians 6:12 "Everything is permissible for me," but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me," but I will not be mastered by anything. (CSB)*

- Historical context of the phrase in quotes –
- How Paul used this phrase in 1 Corinthians 6 – **is it "beneficial"?**
- General principle = **anything that is a non-essential is allowable for the Christian, but it might not be good for you, especially if you are addicted to it.**

**Q: How do you know if you are addicted to something?**

*1 Corinthians 10:23 "Everything is permissible," but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible," but not everything builds up. <sup>24</sup>No one is to seek his own good, but the good of the other person. (CSB)*

- How Paul used this phrase in 1 Corinthians 10 – **does it "build up"?**
- General principle = **anything that is a non-essential is allowable so long as participation in the activity builds up community.**

**Q: How do you know if are using your freedom wisely?**

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BI: **All non-essentials are permissible in Christ so long as you are not addicted & freedom is used for the good of Christian community.**

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