

Do All for the Glory of God

1 Corinthians 10:23-33

“Do the strong in faith have to forgo anything about which the weaker believer might object? In a world with so much variety there is hardly anything you or I might do that will not be objected to by some other believer. Moreover, there are believers on both sides of most issues. If we were to listen to what all these other Christians have to say and try to live by their standards, we would either fall into a new legalism or go crazy trying to balance thousands of conflicting claims on our behavior.

William Barclay expresses this well when he writes, ‘Paul is not saying that we must always allow our conduct to be dominated and dictated by the views, and even the prejudices, of others; there are many matters which are essentially matters of principle, and in them a man must take his own way. But there are a great many things which are neutral and indifferent, ... and it is Paul’s conviction that in such things we have no right to give offence to the scrupulous brother.

Barclay says, ‘It is a Christian duty to think of everything, not as it affects ourselves only, but also as it affects others.’ This is the part of what it means for a believer to be guided by the Christian mind.” Boice

- I. God wants us to glorify him by building one another up with his agape love. He is very concerned that we seek the good of others over our own good, especially when there are disputable differences in how we worship, do church, dress, and live our lives. The strength of our faith, and how we approach our differences, is tied directly to the strength and intimacy of our relationship with Christ.

1 Cor. 10:23-24

1 Cor. 8:1-3

1 John 5:18-21

1 Thess. 5:11

Philippians 2:3-5 *3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

- II. God wants us to glorify him with the choices we make in those areas that Scripture does not speak out against. He has given us freedom to live our lives as our conscience dictates, but we must judge whether what we allow hurts or helps others who are weak in their faith. We will be judged on whether we have caused others to stumble morally, spiritually or emotionally by how we live our freedom before them.

1 Cor. 10:25-32

1 Cor. 8:7

Psalm 24:1

1 Thessalonians 5:10-11 *10He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

- III. All things in our lives, what we allow and don't allow, must be done for the glory of God. Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed (**Rom. 13:11**). With this in mind, we must conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ (**Phil. 1:27**), knowing that the Day of the rapture is fast approaching (**1 Thess. 5:2**).

1 Cor. 10:31-33

1 Peter 4:7-11

Romans 25:13 *"Therefore, keep watch, because you don't know the day or the hour."*