

Week 5 - Law, Liberty, License

Day 31

Read: 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

The glory of God and the good of people is a common rephrasing of our new paradigm "I'm about God, His Cause, and the People He Loves". To filter our decisions through Love God, Love People, and what is bringing God glory and people good ensures that we can't go far wrong.

This is actually a departure from where the early church started. Originally, in Acts 15, it was a decisive instruction to the new Christians: don't anymore eat food offered to idols. Paul is saying...well, you know it doesn't actually matter...but if it matters to someone, it needs to matter to you. This is the adjustment - even if it doesn't matter, I care more about others than I do about my rights. I am rejecting the iGod phenomenon, and me, myself and mine is no longer my prevailing paradigm. Everything might be permissible, but is everything beneficial?

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Question: Do you tend to insist on your rights and your freedoms?

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you laid down ALL Your rights and freedoms for me. Please help me to do the same for others. I like what I like, I like the freedom to do what I want. Please don't let that be my goal; help me instead to place others' thoughts, feelings, and conscience ahead of what I feel good in my own conscience about. Help me to follow Your example Jesus. Amen.