

Simple Church Series Part 14 I Corinthians

Six Important Principles for Making Godly Decision

You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything. I Corinthians 6:12

Rules vs. Principles Rules are for **CHILDREN!** Principles are for **ADULTS!**

Six Positive Principles to Live By

1. Principle of Expediency You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but **not everything** is good for you. I Corinthians 6:12a

Do You have God given ambitions and goals? If so, a lot of things are already settled.
Does this activity bring me to my goals or hinder me?

2. Principle of Enslavement And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything. I Corinthians 6:12b

Jesus died to set us free! John 8:36

People w/o Christ are enslaved and don't realize it!

*So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so **you are not free** to carry out your good intentions.* Galatians 5:16-17

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1-2

3. Principle of Example It's true that we can't win God's approval by what we eat. We don't lose anything if we don't eat it, and we don't gain anything if we do. But you must be careful so that your freedom does not cause others with a weaker conscience to stumble. I Corinthians 8:8-9

Now regarding your question about food that has been offered to idols. Yes, we know that "we all have knowledge" about this issue. But while knowledge makes us feel important, it is love that strengthens the church. Anyone who claims to know all the answers doesn't really know very much. I Corinthians 8:1-2

So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall. Romans 14:13

We are told here to Be Easy on others and hard on Ourselves but we do the **OPPOSITE!**
It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything else if it might cause another believer to stumble. Romans 14:21

4. Principle of Edification *You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is beneficial. Don't be concerned for your own good but for the good of others.* I Corinthians 10:23-24

Does this **Build Me Up** or bring me down?

5. Principle of Exaltation *So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.* I Corinthians 10:31

Is God glorified by what I am doing? **These are not Principles for the Lost!**

6. Principle of Evangelism *I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don't just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.* I Corinthians 10:33

Will it offend the lost so they will find fault and not get saved? We are being watched!

These Six Principles are better than 100,000 "thou shalt nots"

These **Six Principles** are not how to go heaven but Principles for People who Love the Lord!

You will only go to heaven by repenting from your sins and asking Jesus to be your Savior!