

Romans 14 Part II
When Freedoms Become Folly
April 3, 2022

My freedom becomes folly when it leads me

into _____

Romans 14:3 Romans 14:15 Ephesians 5:18
Matthew 5:27-28 Proverbs 5:8 Matthew 5:29-30

- 1) On any specific command in Scripture, it might be wise to add a _____ fence.
- 2) Never confuse man's fences with God's _____
- 3) These "extra fences" are _____ not _____

My freedom becomes folly when it becomes an _____

Genesis 21:5-7 Genesis 22:1-2 Genesis 22:12 Luke 16:13

- 4) Do I love God more than my freedom? _____

What good comes from our willingly sacrificing good or neutral things?

- It _____ God.
- It reveals our _____
- We remind ourselves to _____ God _____

My freedom becomes folly when it makes me

Luke 12:16-21 Colossians 3:23

Some Helpful Reminders

John 15:4-5 Isaiah 64:6a Ephesians 2:8-9
Philippians 3:12-14

- 5) Only the _____ can change our hearts.
- 6) A rigid, sacrificial lifestyle won't earn us _____
- 7) It's not about how you _____, but how you _____.
_____ . So press on toward Christ!

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My freedom becomes folly when it leads me

into TEMPTATION

Romans 14:3 Romans 14:15 Ephesians 5:18
Matthew 5:27-28 Proverbs 5:8 Matthew 5:29-30

- 1) On any specific command in Scripture, it might be wise to add a PERSONAL fence.
- 2) Never confuse man's fences with God's CLIFFS
- 3) These "extra fences" are TOOLS not RULES

My freedom becomes folly when it becomes an IDOL

Genesis 21:5-7 Genesis 22:1-2 Genesis 22:12 Luke 16:13

- 4) Do I love God more than my freedom? PROVE IT

What good comes from our willingly sacrificing good or neutral things?

- It GLORIFIES God.
- It reveals our HEART
- We remind ourselves to LOVE God MOST

My freedom becomes folly when it makes me

IRRESPONSIBLE

Luke 12:16-21 Colossians 3:23

Some Helpful Reminders

John 15:4-5 Isaiah 64:6a Ephesians 2:8-9
Philippians 3:12-14

- 5) Only the HOLY SPIRIT can change our hearts.
- 6) A rigid, sacrificial lifestyle won't earn us HEAVEN
- 7) It's not about how you START, but how you FINISH.
_____ . So press on toward Christ!

Food for Thought for the week of April 3, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

****Since Life Groups are on break, feel free to use the following study questions with your personal devotions! The next quarter of Life Group begins on Easter.****

1) In this week's message, we talked about how it can be helpful for us to make "extra" sacrifices in order to draw nearer to Jesus. Read the following passage.

Hebrews 12:1-2 - "[1] Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, [2] looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

What stands out to you from this passage?

What are some examples of "weights" or sins that we can "lay aside"?

Why is it so encouraging that Jesus is called the "author and finisher of our faith"?

2) Jesus used parables by using earthly examples to teach spiritual truth. **Read the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30.** (A talent was a sum of money, about 75 pounds of silver or gold)

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2) Jesus used parables by using earthly examples to teach spiritual truth. **Read the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30.** (A talent was a sum of money, about 75 pounds of silver or gold)

What stands out to you from this passage?

When Jesus taught in parables, we're not supposed to read into all the details of the earthly example, but instead find the one, main, spiritual truth. What do you think this main spiritual truth is in this parable?

This parable is not teaching us that we can become *disqualified* from our salvation (again, don't turn every detail in the parable into a spiritual truth). However, it does remind us that our faithfulness now affects how pleased God is with us. Try to come up with at least five reasons God is pleased with you right now.

Is there anything you can/should do differently to better please the Lord?

3) Based on this week's message, are there any "freedoms" in your life that you need to sacrifice or put healthier boundaries on? If so, what?

Spend some time in prayer asking God to help you love and serve Him more. Ask Him to make your heart more like His.

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