

18. How can I be devoted to prayer on one another's behalf this week?

Quotes to Ponder

The classical understanding of Christian liberty is this: we are not to try to force somebody with a scruple against something, as uninformed as that scruple may be, to violate his conscience.

Though we are to be sensitive, loving, and kind to the weaker brother, we ought never to allow him to exercise tyranny over the church.

R.C. Sproul

If we live, we live to the Lord. If we die, we die to the Lord. So whether we live or die, whichever it is, we are the Lord's. Do you know any comfort equal to that? I don't. Our sole comfort is that we belong to Jesus Christ. But because of who He is, that is also a great and all-sufficient comfort. Because we know Jesus to be a wise and utterly sovereign God, we can trust Him with whatever comes into our lives and with the manner and timing of our deaths, too. Do you trust Him? You can. I commend him to you as a trustworthy Savior.

James Montgomery Boice

The weak need to remember that they might be wrong!

Timothy Keller

May I allow myself this or that pleasure? Yes, if I can enjoy it to the Lord, and while giving him thanks for it; no, if I cannot receive it as a gift from His hand, and bless Him for it. This mode of solution respects at once the rights of the Lord and those of individual liberty.

F. Godet

Death does not just mark a transition for the Christian from struggle to rest; death is also a doorway that leads to new enlarged opportunities for service and worship.

Keith Krell

Thus too we are taught the rule by which to live and die, so that if He (God) lengthens our life in the midst of continual sorrow and weariness, we are not to seek to depart before our time. But if he should suddenly recall us in the prime of our life, we must always be ready for our departure.

John Calvin



Message #108: What Are Your Convictions?

April 2, 2017

Sermon
Notes

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you?
2. What examples of disputable matters does Paul give (*Romans 14:2, 5, 21*)?

What are some examples of disputable matters today?
3. What does it mean to *regard one day above another* (*Romans 14:5*)?
4. Why must we each *be fully convinced in his own mind* (*Romans 14:5*) about grey areas?
5. How do we become *fully convinced* about our personal convictions?
6. Behind all the different convictions and possible behaviors of Christians, what does Paul suggest should be our ultimate goals when we confront issues not addressed by the Word of God?
7. What should be the motive of every Christian (*Romans 14:7-8*)?
8. How does focusing on your convictions and living *for the Lord* help keep you from despising or judging others (*Romans 14:5-8*)?
9. How can a church full of people with different backgrounds, personalities, thought patterns, struggles, emotions, values, desires, experiences, expectations, and convictions ever expect to find unity?

10. Consider the men Jesus chose to be His disciples (*Mark 13:13-19*). They came from a wide range of backgrounds, political persuasions, and occupations. How does the forming of this group serve as a model for the kind of unity that we should enjoy?
11. How much time and effort should be spent on straightening out the convictions of other Christians in grey areas? How can time be better spent?
12. Why would a person *fully convinced in his own mind* (*Romans 14:5*) be able to fellowship and grow with a person who has convictions just the opposite?
13. What does it mean to *live for the Lord? Die for the Lord* (*Romans 14:8*)?
14. According to *Romans 14:9*, why did Jesus die and rise from the dead?
15. How is Jesus *Lord both of the dead and of the living*? What does this mean (*Romans 14:9*)?
16. How can people with opposing convictions on non-essentials both be perfectly right with God?
17. **Reflection Questions:** Are my convictions biblical or cultural? Do I have convictions in areas of liberty? Can I do this before Jesus? Can I do it in His name, thanking Him for it? Who am I living for, myself or Jesus?