

What About Grey Areas and Jesus' Example

Text: 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

Date: March 22, 2020

Sermon Outline:

1. **God has given us freedom – to use responsibly. (23-24)**
 - a. Is it helpful?
 - b. Does it build up?
 - c. Is it good for your neighbor?

2. **God owns everything – so we don't need to worry. (25-27)**
 - a. "Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience"
REALLY?
 - b. Reason: the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof
 - c. "eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience."

3. **God cares about your unbelieving contacts. (28-29)**
 - a. Don't violate their conscience. Don't do something they think you should not do. EVEN IF YOU CAN.

4. **God blesses things we can receive with thanksgiving. (30)**

1 Timothy 4:4–5 [4] For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, [5] for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer. (ESV)

5. **God deserves all the glory in any of our actions. (31)**
 - a. Can you REALLY do this to glorify God?

6. **Jesus set the perfect example of sacrificing so others may be saved. (32-11:1)**
 - a. He went first.
 - b. He's calling us to sacrifice in hopes that others are saved.

Bottom Line:

The gray areas really boil down to loving God with our freedoms but also loving our neighbors with our restraint so that they may be saved.

Filtering Questions:

1. Is it helpful?
2. Does it build up others?
3. Is your conscience clear?
4. Would it violate your unbelieving friend's conscience?
5. Can you receive this with thanksgiving?
6. Can you do this to the glory of God?
7. Will it unnecessarily offend the people you are with?
8. Are you following the example of Paul and Christ who sacrificed so others might be saved?