

MINING THE MESSAGE



<i>Title</i>	LIFE: Gospel-Centered Liberty
<i>Scripture</i>	Romans 14:13-23
<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Jeff Terrell, Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Speaker</i>	The gospel gives us true liberty to live for Christ, build up others, and walk in love.

OUTLINE

1. Convinced? - Care for the Weak (13–15)

Care Before Conviction

- a. Read Romans 14:13–15. How does Paul's command to avoid becoming a stumbling block reshape the way we should handle disagreements with other believers?
- b. Where are you most tempted to emphasize being right rather than caring for the person who sees the issue differently?

Lay Down Your Liberty

- c. Read 1 Corinthians 8:9–13. What does this passage teach us about the responsibility that comes with having freedom in Christ?
- d. Think about an area where you have biblical liberty. What might it look like to willingly limit that liberty for the good of another believer?

2. Citizen? - Focus on the Eternal (16–18)

Kingdom Priorities

- a. Read Romans 14:17–18. Why does Paul point believers away from external matters and toward righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit?
- b. What earthly identity, activity, or issue can most easily become more important to you than your identity as a citizen of God's kingdom?

Serving Christ

- c. Read Romans 12:1–2. How does presenting ourselves to God as living sacrifices change the way we think about Christian freedom?
- d. Where might God be calling you to serve Christ by giving up something you have a right to enjoy?

3. Committed? - Work to Build Up (19–21)

The Work of God

- a. Read Ephesians 2:19–22. What does this passage reveal about the “work of God” that believers are called to help build up?
- b. How might viewing other believers as people God is actively building change the way you speak to or about them?

Pursue Peace

- c. Read Romans 14:19–21. What does it look like to actively pursue peace rather than simply avoid conflict?
- d. In what relationship or situation could you be more intentional about building up rather than tearing down?

4. Comprehend? - Grow in Faith (22–23)

Rooted in God's Word

- a. Read Romans 14:22–23. How does Paul connect faith, personal conviction, and obedience?
- b. Are any of your convictions primarily rooted in tradition, experience, or personal reasoning rather than a thoughtful study of God's Word?

Stand Firm in Faith

- c. Read Galatians 2:11–14. What happened when Peter allowed the pressure of others to influence how he lived out his convictions?
- d. Where might you be tempted to compromise a biblical conviction because of peer pressure, acceptance, reputation, or personal advantage?

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Accountability Worksheet

1. Where am I more concerned with defending my rights or convictions than with loving and building up another believer?
2. Is there someone I have judged, avoided, or spoken about because their convictions differ from mine, rather than seeking to understand how they arrived at those convictions from Scripture?
3. What freedom am I currently unwilling to surrender, even though laying it down could help another person grow in their faith?
4. Are my convictions genuinely rooted in God's Word, or have tradition, experience, reasoning, or the desire for approval become more influential than I realize?