

#### Transformed Receiving

The Weak & Strong in Faith: Part Two from Romans 14:13–23

#### The "One Anothers" of Receptivity in Romans 14–15

- "Do not judge one another" (14:13).
- "Let us pursue those matters that lead to peace and to edification for one another" (14:19).
- "May the God of endurance and of comfort give to you the power to think the same thing among *one another* according to Christ Jesus" (15:5).



Paul warned the "strength" of the strong to be receptive to the "weak" regarding convictions and liberties about food, wine, and special days so that no one may fall into spiritual ruin. (Rom. 14:13–23).

# Instruction for the "strong" in faith/convictions

### Paul on How the "Strong" Practice Receptivity

- Paul exhorted the strong not to cause the weak to stumble because of their own good liberties and convictions (vv. 13– 16).
- Paul explained the theological and relational primacy of the kingdom of God (vv. 17–19).
- Paul warned the strong about the wise exercise of Christian liberty (vv. 20-23).

Abiding in God's mercies in Christ cultivates an obedient receptivity toward one another.



# Work on the technique of your liberty.

#### Technique

a way of carrying out a particular task, especially the execution or performance of an artistic work or a scientific procedure.

skill or ability in a particular field

a skillful or efficient way of doing or achieving something





#### How Do I Know If I'm Strong or Weak in Faith?



- 1. The Condition of Your Heart: Are you spiritual, natural, an infant, or carnal (1 Col. 2:6–3:3)?
- 2. The Practice of Christian Liberty is the biblical discovery of convictions.
- 3. The Spirit of Truth guides in moments of decisions.
- 4. Pay attention to spiritual grief and pain.

#### How do I form faith-filled convictions?



- 1. Find things worthy of convictions in the word of God (2 Tim. 3:16–17).
- 2. Don't just study a biblical topic in one spot, but what the whole of Scripture has to say about it.
- 3. Mature your convictions with prayerfulness and fellowship with mature believers.
- 4. Hold your convictions with grace toward others who have biblically reasoned to other convictions.

"Sin is any act that does not match our sincerely held convictions [stemming from one's faith in Christ] about what our Christian faith allows us to do and prohibits us from doing."

-Douglas Moo in *The Epistle to the Romans*, pp. 863

### The Biblical Technique of Liberty

- Subject liberties to love.
- Consider the danger of the spiritual ruin the weak.
- Pursue convictions and liberties with knees bowed to the King of the kingdom.
- Pursue convictions and liberties peaceably.
- Pursue convictions and liberties for edification.



## The Biblical Technique of Liberty

- Willingly lay aside liberties for God's work in another's life.
- Enjoy your liberties and convictions privately before God.
- Do not pressure weak convictions into liberties for worry of sin.





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