

# IMPACT

**I** **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday  
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.  
Proverbs 3:5-6

**Passage:** I Corinthians 10:31-33 “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or *whatever you do*, do *all to the glory of God*. Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, *that they may be saved.*”

**Quote:** When evaluating our involvement in an activity, our first and foremost considerations should be the glory of God and the eternal good of others.

**H**ow often do we hear professing Christians play the Christian liberty card when it comes to involvement in something that others might consider offensive? What do we mean by Christian liberty? If God does not forbid a practice in His Word, a Christian is at liberty to participate in it. We must keep in mind that God’s condemnation of something may be by general principle and not by a specific, “You shall not.” For example, God does not say, “You shall not speed,” but He does say, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities” (Rom. 13:1). Limiting Christian liberty takes wisdom. On the one hand, we must guard against devotion to man-made rules that may encourage prideful self-righteousness. On the other hand, we must remember that *God commands us to obey the “house rules” of those who are over us at home, church, school, work and government* (Heb.13:7, 17; Eph.6:1-7; Rom.13:1-7). He also commands us not to do anything that will cause another Christian to stumble, or that would bring a reproach upon the name of Christ. Paul summarizes the attitude with which we need to approach our involvement in an activity that may not be universally accepted by all believers. “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but *through love serve one another*. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘You shall *love your neighbor as yourself*’” (Gal.5:13-14).

Some questions that may help you make wise choices that demonstrate love for God and others:

- How can I best demonstrate and further develop a *God-conscious* mindset? (Prov. 3:5-7; I Peter 1:17; I Cor.10:31)

- How can I best demonstrate *sensitivity* to the spiritual well-being of *others*? (I Cor. 8:9; 9:19-22; 10:32-33; Rom. 15:1-3)
- How can I best demonstrate living by *Bible principle* and not by popularity or pleasure? (II Tim. 2:15; II Peter 1; II Tim. 3:16-17)
- How can I best demonstrate a desire to pursue holiness of character and conduct by *pursuing excellence* for God’s glory and the eternal good of others? (Phil. 1:9-12) One thing that helps me is remembering that God has made believers holy nobility. John wrote, “To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us *kings and priests* to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen (Rev.1:5-6). Peter reminds us, “But you are a chosen generation, a *royal priesthood*, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (I Peter 2:9).

## God’s A Honor Roll, Actions

- How can I best “quicken” or encourage the *Holy Spirit’s* work in my life? Failure to refrain from that which is not “of faith” can “quench” or lessen the Holy Spirit’s work in our own life, and weaken our testimony (Rom. 14:23).
- How can I guard against an “is-it-sin-yet” approach to Christian liberty? That type of attitude shows a lack of biblical love and gratitude for God’s grace. It most certainly does not reveal someone who truly wants to do all for God’s glory!

When it comes to making choices about our actions may we cultivate the desire to follow Paul’s admonition to “test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.” May we also desire that his benediction be fulfilled in our lives. “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it” (I Thess.5:21-24).