

# ENCORE Discoveries

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1. What is the key theme in today's verses? *WORSHIP WITH* \_\_\_\_\_
2. What cultural practices of our day might be like the "meat offered to idols" issue of Paul's day?
3. What distinguishes the "weak" from the "strong"?
4. How do people become "weak" or "strong"?
5. What should be the attitude of the "weak" toward the "strong"? How should they deal with the freedom of others? Consult Romans 14:5-12.
6. What should be the attitude of the "strong" toward the "weak"? How should they deal with the restrictions of others? Consult Romans 14:13-18.
7. Is it proper for the "weak" to become "strong"? If so, how does this process take place?
8. How would these six Biblical principles help with controversial issues?
  - I Corinthians 6:12 – Will this lead to freedom or bondage?
  - I Corinthians 10:23 – Will this build me up or tear me down?
  - I Corinthians 3:16 – How does this affect the temple of God, my body?
  - Colossians 3:17 – Can I thank God for it?
  - I Thessalonians 5:22 – How does this appear to others?
  - I Corinthians 8:9 – Will this cause someone to spiritually "stumble"?

*We daily live in a tension: God's grace frees us to choose as we please, but God's love requires us to ask questions of conscience about our choices.*

# Theme: Worship with Freedom

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## Monday

Genuine worship involves both respect (reverence) *and* love (adoration). It shouldn't be fear that forces us to worship our God. Instead, the worship that pleases the Lord is a realization of who He is with all His awesome attributes—and then a simultaneous realization of His great love for us. This prompts us to truly *worship*—revere and adore—Him. When you worship God, do you worship Him out of both respect and love?

## Tuesday

Read I Corinthians 8:1-3. Would others say you have a greater knowledge of the Scriptures than authentic love for them, or more love than knowledge? How can you balance this out?

## Wednesday

What are some of the “gray areas” (morally neutral activities) you feel liberty to participate in, but which you should probably take more care about, so you won't offend the immature believers in your life?

## Thursday

A “clear conscience” is an inner freedom and assurance that comes from knowing no one is able to point a finger at me and accuse me of any wrong toward him that I have not made right. When we “defile” or smudge our conscience by doing something that we have doubts about, we have compromised our fellowship with God. Fill in the blank: *I can keep my conscience clear by \_\_\_\_\_.*

## Friday

Read Romans 14:1-23. God's grace frees me to choose as I please; but God's love requires me to ask questions of conscience about my choices. Has this truth affected you, and if so, how?

## Saturday

“Heavenly Father, help me to appropriate your daily grace and love so I can make choices based on not only facts but love. May my choices be wise, my love deep, and my liberties surrendered to You, for the sake of others.”