

Build Each Other Up

Description

Romans 14:13-19

Today, truth appears to be a highly personal matter. Many believe that truth is relative to each individual's chosen life. At first glance, Paul seems to agree: "Therefore do not let what you know is good be spoken of as evil" (v. 16). Let's look a little closer.

At the heart of this is the family love one Christian ought to have for another. In a high school science class, the boy sitting in front of me stuck out his foot, tripping me purposefully as I returned to my seat. I fell hard, and it was embarrassing. I recovered from this embarrassment, but Paul knew that there are spiritual traps with a more challenging recovery.

For one believer, eating the food sacrificed to idols was nothing. For another it was a trap, and destructive to "the work of God" (v. 20).

A modern-day example might be alcohol. Some have no convictions against alcohol. Others struggle to keep from falling down a hole of addiction. Paul clearly states that in a culture that elevates personal rights, we in God's kingdom are to build each other up in Christ.

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