

Fulfilling the Law of Love

GALATIANS 5:13-15*

We are prone to go to extremes. One believer interprets *liberty* as *license* and thinks he can do whatever he wants to do. Another believer, seeing this error, goes to an opposite extreme and imposes Law on everybody. Somewhere between *license* on the one hand and *legalism* on the other hand is true Christian liberty.

Clarification of Our Liberty (13)

Constraints on Our Liberty (14-15)

Calculating Our Liberty

When my liberty could hurt my brother/sister — (cf. Rom. 14:1-3, 13-15)

When my liberty would hinder God's work — (cf. Rom. 14:16-20)

When my liberty creates unrest in my own conscience —

(cf. Rom. 14:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:14-15)

Quote to Consider

On Impact

You cannot have impact without community.

You cannot have community without unity.

You cannot have unity without humility.

You cannot have humility without
experiencing the holiness of God.

— Joe Aldrich

Strength for the week:

"We are forgiven as we forgive. . . . If our hearts are so narrow as to see only how others have hurt and offended us, we cannot see how we have offended God and so find no need to seek forgiveness. If we are always calculating in our hearts how much this one or that one has violated our rights, by the very nature of things we will not be able to pray this prayer [Mt. 6:12] Forgiveness means that the power of love that holds us together is greater than the power of the offense that separates us."

Richard J. Foster commenting on Matthew 6:12 in *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*

* These notes are prayerfully provided to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's Word.