

Think It Over: This section is about turning what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take your own next step. If you are leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and action among your group.

- When was the last time you asked yourself, "What are my options in the area of _____?" What were the circumstances? How easy was it for you to come to an answer? Are there any times when you have not been able to come to an answer? Why is it important to come to terms with what Christ follower means when answering this question? How do the five areas of options play into answer the question?
- Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NCV. Have you come to agree that Christ followers are to go to the Bible and then go with the Bible? What interferes with completely embracing that truth? What do you think needs to happen for a person to embrace it? Read Romans 14:13 MSG. How does this fit with the question especially when thinking about others (remember the 5 areas of options)?
- Read through each of the points and the passages for the Matrix. Do you believe the process can help a person draw a reasonable answer to the question? Why or why not? How does *Wisdom - Personal* speak to your own expression of options? How does it make you feel when a person has options that you don't and vice versa? What does Romans 14:1 MSG have to say?
- Review 1 Corinthians 10:27-30 NLT. What role does the *Witness - Effect* concept play in the way you practice permissible options? How far should you take *Witness - Effect*? What about other believers who want to superimpose their option or lack of option on another? How can you handle that as Paul would?

Next Steps: Walk through the Matrix answering "Is it ok for a Christ follower to watch a PG 13 or Rated R movie?" What are your answers for others and yourself? How will your answer affect the way you live and the way you look at other Christ followers?

Changing Your Mind: ²³"I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but not everything is constructive. 1 Corinthians 10:23 NIV page 798



If you missed a message, visit www.scc.website or request a CD at Guest Services.



➡ What are my options in the area of _____?

Connectors not Correctors

➤ Christ follower

➤ Options

Commandments

Conviction

Conscience

Conjecture

Choices

¹⁶All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing people what is wrong in their lives, for correcting faults, and for teaching how to live right. ¹⁷Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be capable, having all that is needed to do every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NCV

Go to the Bible and then
go with the Bible.

¹³Forget about deciding what's right for each other. Here's what you need to be concerned about: that you don't get in the way of someone else, making life more difficult than it already is. Romans 14:13 MSG

➤ The Matrix:

- Prohibition - No
- Permission - Yes
- Principles

²³You say, "I am allowed to do anything" — but not everything is good for you. You say, "I am allowed to do anything" — but not everything is beneficial.
1 Corinthians 10:23 NLT

○ Wisdom - Personal

- Our temperament
- Our life situation
- Our past

What is the wisest thing for me to do?

¹Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump all over them every time they do or say something you don't agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently.
Romans 14:1 MSG

○ Witness - Effect

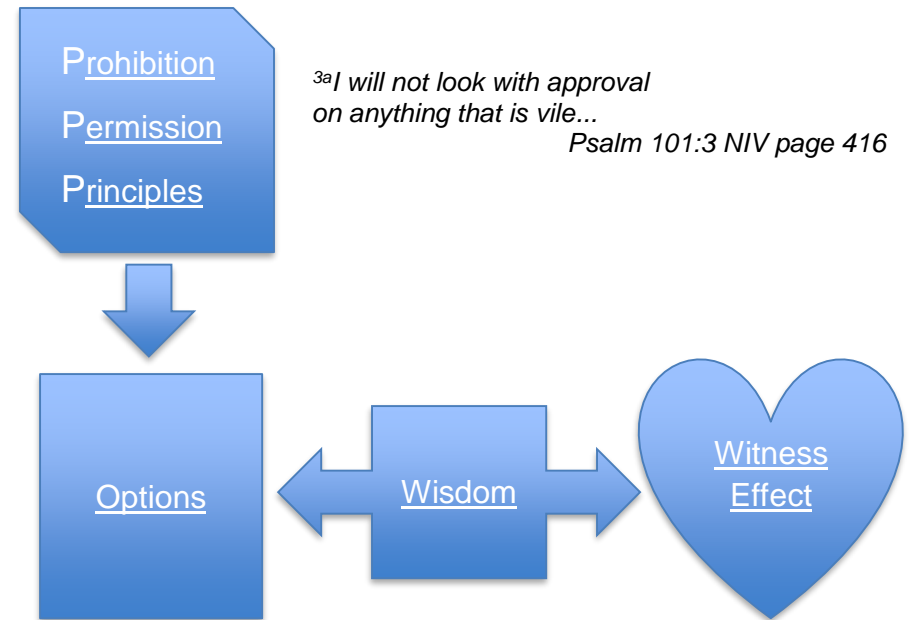
1 Corinthians 10:24-26 NIV page 798

²⁷If someone who isn't a believer asks you home for dinner, accept the invitation if you want to. Eat whatever is offered to you without raising questions of conscience. ²⁸(But suppose someone tells you, "This meat was offered to an idol." Don't eat it, out of consideration for the conscience of the one who told you. ²⁹It might not be a matter of conscience for you, but it is for the other person.) For why should my freedom be limited by what someone else thinks? ³⁰If I can thank God for the food and enjoy it, why should I be condemned for eating it?

1 Corinthians 10:27–30 NLT

Is it okay for a Christ follower to watch

"PG-13" -- "R"?



²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You must not commit adultery.'²⁸But I tell you that if a man looks at a woman and wants to sin sexually with her, he has already committed that sin with her in his mind. ²⁹If your right eye makes you sin, take it out and throw it away. It is better to lose one part of your body than to have your whole body thrown into hell. ³⁰If your right hand makes you sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Matthew 5:27–30 NIV page 678

Bottom Line:

Go to the Bible and then
go with the Bible.

Resources for this message include a message by James Emery White at Mecklenburg Community Church and devotional thoughts from Time of Grace.

To help you turn what God is saying to you into action steps, consider using the Think It Over section on the back.