

them to think less of Christianity? What changes can I make to improve my testimony to my unsaved friends?

17. How can we *be devoted to prayer* on one another's behalf this week?

### Quotes to Ponder

*The disputes concerning trivial matters that tear churches apart would not happen if we would just grasp the principle that the kingdom of God is not about eating, drinking, lipstick, or any external thing. It is about **righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.***

R.C. Sproul

*Freedom is being so in love with Christ that you do exactly what you want to do, and it accords with Christ.*

John Piper

*If what you think you are free to do will arouse desires to do what you know you should not do, then you are fooling yourself by assuming you are free to do it.*

Mark Vaughan

*Righteousness in our daily living should always be more precious to us than the exercise of our liberties.*

John MacArthur

*The world is to recognize that believers in Christ are the genuine article and that they show forth something that is better than anything the world knows and that goes beyond its experiences.*

James Montgomery Boice

*Unity does not mean that we relinquish our preferences, but that we have the wisdom and maturity to love and serve others in spite of our preferences.*

Matt Rogers

*The church is not an art museum to display perfect masterpieces. It's not a natural museum to display perfect specimens. The church is a hospital to heal the sick, and it takes time to heal people from a deadly disease. You can't act surprised when a hospital is full of sick people and shouldn't be surprised when a church is full of messy, sinful people. After all, it is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those we are sick. It is not those who are righteous who need Jesus, but sinners.*

Tim Challies



Message #113: *Handle With Care*

May 7, 2017

*Sermon*  
Notes

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you?

2. What can cause people in the world to disapprove of Christians (*Romans 14:16*)?

3. What behaviors are given in the verses below that cause unbelievers to revile God or bring reproach upon His name?

*1 Timothy 6:1* —

*James 2:5-7* —

*Titus 2:3-5* —

*2 Peter 2:2* —

4. How can we as Christians silence the critics of the world (*1 Peter 2:15-16*)?

5. How does Paul describe *the kingdom of God* in *Romans 14:17*?

What does he mean by each element he mentions?

6. Is God's kingdom here now? Is it a future reality? Explain.

7. A fellow Christian thinks you are doing something wrong. You are convinced you are right. What do you do?

8. From whom does the Christian gain acceptance when he limits his liberty for the sake of a weaker believer (*Romans 14:18*)?

9. Is *Romans 14:18* teaching that we earn our acceptance with God? Explain.

10. What do the following verses tell us about pleasing God?

*Romans 12:1-2* —

*Colossians 3:20* —

*2 Corinthians 5:9* —

*Hebrews 13:21* —

*Ephesians 5:8-10* —

11. What are we to do to be *approved by men* (*Romans 14:18*)?

12. What does Jesus tell us in these verses about how we will be treated by the world?

*Luke 6:22, 26* —

*John 15:18-19* —

If this is true, how can we be *approved by men* (*Romans 14:18*)?

13. According to *1 Corinthians 9:23*, what was Paul's reason for limiting his liberty?

14. **Reflection Questions:** What can my unsaved friends conclude about Christianity based on what they see in my relationships with other Christians? Are there aspects of those relationships that might lead