



## Romans 14:13-23

How to Stumble and *Not* Stumble Another | Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

**Warm-up:** We've all heard it said, "If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all." Why is this saying so popular? What's wrong about this statement?

- Read **Romans 14:13-23** aloud. In essence, love says: "*I will accommodate to your restriction.*" It does not say, "*You must accommodate to my freedom.*"
  - Why do you think this is the case?
  - Does this feel "fair" to you? Explain.
  
- In what ways do you personally feel compelled from this passage to more consistently walk in the "law of love"? Be specific.
  
- Read **Galatians 5:25** and its surrounding verses aloud. Can you share about a time when you were walking with God, keeping in step with the Holy Spirit, and He led you to choose to restrict your freedom for the sake of another? Should this be a common practice for believers in Jesus Christ?
  
- J.I. Packer says, "*Repentance means turning from as much as you know of your sin to give as much as you know of yourself to as much as you know of your God, and as our knowledge grows at these three points so our practice of repentance has to be enlarged.*" Discuss in detail what this means.
  - As our knowledge in these three areas grows, so does our repentance. Why?
  - Have you ever sought to take an inventory at the end of the day as to how well you lived for Christ? And have you then sought to repent of the ways you fell short, and to talk with Christ about these things? Discuss how this *could* be a helpful practice.

**Wrap-up:** Love is *ALWAYS* a higher priority than us partaking in our freedoms. In what ways do you need to repent tonight? What aspect of your "freedom" are you inclined to elevate too highly? Be honest and open as you share with one another, and pray for supernatural strength to choose LOVE above all else!