



# wednesday in the word

## Week 5

**Living in freedom for will blow your mind, friends!** You'll say no to things that don't represent Christ, and the fresh wind of freedom will fill your spirit. You'll notice people who need help, and you'll be moved to engage them in ways you never have before. And giving? The giving is what grabbed me. I've always held a tight, white-knuckle death grip on what's "mine." But in the freedom of maybe, my fingers unfolded, and selfishness lost its grip on me.

But all this freedom comes with a warning. If we aren't careful, *freedom for* can hold hands with *judgment of*. Our radical living, lavish loving, and generous giving have the potential to make us feel pious or self-righteous. We have to not let our freedom become an obstacle for another's faith. We have to remember that we are not ruled by self, but instead, we are living according to Christ's rule of love.

### Reflection Questions

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Read 1 Corinthians 13:1–3. Check yourself. Ask: *Am I a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal to someone who is not as strong in his or her faith? What do I need to do about that?*

Read Romans 14:1–5. Maybe means we are living under the freedom of conviction, without being worried about the judgment of others.

*How do you know when you are convicted by something or convicted to live in a certain way?  
What do you do to explore your convictions?*

Read vv. 6–9. Maybe means we are free to live for the Lord.

*What does it mean to you to live for the Lord? What parts of your life have you not yet given over to the Lord? Why?*

Read vv. 13–21. Maybe means we can live freely without causing others to stumble.

*What does it mean to keep your convictions between yourself and God? Why does that matter?*

Read vv. 22–23. Maybe means we have the freedom to live by faith.

*In what areas of your life are you struggling to live by faith? What makes it hard for you?  
What can you do this week to remind yourself to follow your convictions?*