



Part 5

*Friendly Freedom*

April 2, 2017

**ICEBREAKER:** If you were king of the whole world, and you could only have one rule what would it be? What rules would be hard to leave out? Why?

**MAIN POINT:**

**The Most Important View  
Is My View About You**

**EXPLORATION:**

1. **Read Luke 9:49-56.** What does this passage and these two stories seem to indicate about how Jesus treated people who were either not with Him or even not for Him? *(Context Clues- In the first story Jesus seemed to say that when someone is doing what you do, but they are not doing it with you, or the same way as you, do not oppose them. The second story seemed to indicate that you do not have to make it a point to be against everyone that makes a point of being against you.)*

- 2. Read I Corinthians 8:4-5 and Romans 14:1-3. How do these two passages indicate that there is room in the Kingdom of God to have different views about certain moral, ethical, or theological ideas? Do you tend to jump to extremes when someone has a different viewpoint than you?**
  
- 3. Read Romans 14. When it comes to dealing with individuals that tend to have more freedom than you, which of the following principles do you need to be most aware of? Why? (Take time to search for these principles in Romans 14.)**
  - A. Be sure your personal convictions are founded in Scripture.
  - B. Don't Assume that because a person does not have the same convictions then they do not have any convictions at all.
  - C. Don't assume that the person's freedom affects them like it does you.
  - D. Don't look down on the faith of the more free brother.
  - E. Respect, honor, appreciate and encourage the more free brother.
  - F. Don't try to right the relationship if you do not have the right relationship.
  
- 4. Read Romans 14:10, 13, and 15, How do these verses indicate that neither person should judge the motives, intents, or convictions of the other person.**

**APPLICATION:**

- 1. Do you feel like you are generally the person with stronger convictions or the person with free convictions in most settings that you are in? how does it make you feel? Does this create tension between you and others in the Kingdom of God? If so, how?**
  
- 2. What particular issues tend to get you the most frustrated with others in the church? Why? What could you do to strengthen relationships strained by issues?**
  
- 3. Pray that the Lord would help each person in your group in relationships that may be strained over different conviction issues. Pray for how each person treats those who have vastly different views.**