

Disciples Church

Alcohol According to the Bible, Part 2

Week of September 13, 2017

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

1. Read **Mark 7:14-23.**

* What is the main point that Jesus is making in this passage?
* What is the necessary truth that is overlooked when a person views sin as being caused by something outside of the body?
* What are some things you or others have wrongly viewed as sinful objects (besides just alcohol)?

1. In our lesson, we heard: “The *gospel* is our power to honor God, and a misapplication of the gospel is where we begin to adopt man-made convictions, prescriptions, or practices.” Read **Colossians 2:16-23.**

* Why does Paul say that extra-biblical prohibitory regulations have an appearance of wisdom?
* What is the problem with extra-biblical prohibitory regulations (verse 23)?

1. What is the main difference between the prohibitionist and abstentionist positions? What do these two positions have in common?
2. How does the abstentionist position unintentionally pass judgment on the character of Christ?
3. **Read Romans 14:1-4.**

* What defines the weak person?
* What is the sin(s) Paul is warning against?
* What is the responsibility of the “strong” brother?
* One goal of this lesson is to help all of us be “strong” (biblical) in our understanding and conscience on this topic; how does it glorify God to move out of a wrong understanding or "weak" conscience to being “strong” (biblical) in your understanding and conscience on this or any other topic?

1. Does the moderation position require that a Christian must exercise their freedom to recreationally drink alcoholic beverages?
2. If a Christian has a right understanding of food and/or alcohol and still chooses to recreationally abstain while honoring these things as good gifts from God, would they still be considered “weak” in faith?
3. For those who do or may in the future recreationally enjoy alcohol, what practical things did Pastor encourage so that we do it in a wise, God-honoring way?
4. In light of the modern culture we live in with automobiles and government regulations regarding the use of alcohol, how should we behave as Christians?
5. According to **Colossians 3:1-11**, how and why do we stop the indulgence of the flesh?
6. Why is it important that we take the consequences of sinful consumption of alcohol seriously and how do we practice accountability with it?
7. How has this study affected your view of alcohol and the Christian? How has this study affected your understanding of sin and the necessity of the gospel in all things?

* Spend some time in prayer.