



I believe God speaks through the Bible, help me listen more carefully.

Big Idea: Sometimes we allow tradition, opinion, and preference to shape our faith _____ we examine God's word to see what it has to say.

Mark 7:1-8 Traditions can be a _____ from God's actual commands.

I Cor. 11:1 Traditions can also be a very good thing _____ handled correctly.

Conclusion: If traditions align with God's word, they are good – otherwise, beware.

Traditions you may have heard of:

1. Tobacco, Alcohol, and Gambling are all against the rules for Christians.

Better: Each of these must be managed with Biblical and Godly _____.

_____ is always favorable to excess.

The _____ of money is a root of all kinds of evil. (I Timothy 6:10)

We are to _____ God with our bodies (I Cor 6:9 ((sexual sin))

2. If you raise your kids in _____ they will love and serve God when they are adults. (Proverbs 22:6)

Better: Deuteronomy 6:6-7, 11:18-20

James 4:4

Joshua 24:15

3. Being equally yoked means marrying someone who _____ they are a Christian. So this does not affect dating, friendships, or lifestyle.

Better: Understand the meaning of the word "Yoked"

Check out the _____ of the passage. (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)

Much more delicate and possibly more damaging traditions:

1. **Only Christians can participate in communion, and non-Christians need to be _____ so that they are not punished by God. (I Corinthians 11:17-30)**

The issues:

1. Making a mockery of the Lord's supper, as a social event
2. Practicing favoritism and selfishness
3. Practicing gluttony and drunkenness

The warning:

1. To people _____ the church, professing Christians
2. Start focusing on _____ and not yourselves
3. Do as commanded, not as you see fit
4. Start _____ your neighbor as yourself

For non-Christians:

1. Not mentioned at all , not even by context
2. Will receive a testimony if done right

2. a. _____ men can serve in the important roles within the church.
b. **Since men and women are equal in God's eyes, there are _____ limitations.**
- A. Only men can serve in the important roles within the church.
- i. Deborah was a _____ (Judges 4)
 - ii. Several ladies traveled with _____ (Luke 8:1-3) and were the _____ witnesses of the resurrection (Luke 24:1-12)
 - iii. Phoebe was a _____ (Romans 16:1)
- B. Since men and women are equal in God's eyes, there are no limitations.
- i. Role assignments do _____ reflect inequality (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
 - ii. Roles are assigned _____ God, who does not contradict himself.
 - iii. Pronouns _____ - in I Timothy 3:1-13

Conclusion:

- a. The role of Elder is a _____ assigned to men
- b. Deacon is a position to be held by _____ men and women.
- c. The modern meaning of "Deacon" does *not match* the Biblical meaning.
- d. The only role or position limited to men only is the role of **Pastor/Elder**.

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