the SCRIBBLERS

By Queens For the Cross

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Rated "R" For "Rad" -- Part I

By Erin E. Short -- (Age 15)

"We aren't in an information age, we are in an entertainment age."

- Tony Robbins

How should people -- Christians, especially -- view movies? Should we watch only G-rated tales about God's goodness, and dub everything else *debauchery*? What about movies like *The Passion of Christ*, an R-rated movie about Jesus' crucifixion?

But what about if you like almost nothing more than a good film, with brilliant acting, phenomenal storytelling, and other-worldly screenwriting? Surely there should be exceptions for masterpiece films that we love watching, for which we can overlook some foul language and the occasional racy scene. Right?

The answer is this: I really don't know.

I've done extensive research, and I can't seem to find any sort of line to draw between when movies are okay to watch, and when they aren't. But then I realized something after reading 1 Corinthians 6:12.

" 'All things are lawful for me,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything."

I realized that I was looking at this matter in completely the wrong way. Like a lot of things that the Bible doesn't specifically talk about, there is *no* "line" to cross.

What I mean is, there should be no *international* set of rules that everyone has to follow when it comes to entertainment, because all people are different.

(All scripture taken from the ESV Bible version.)

Just Because I Can?

By Sarah G. Schumacher -- (Age 18)

"All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any."

- 1 Corinthians 16:1

As Christians, we have the option to make many choices that are completely acceptable in our culture, but aren't profitable in our spiritual lives. Doing something just because we *can* is *not* a good reason for doing it, especially when we know it could hurt someone else.

1 Corinthians 8:9 says, "But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak." When we use our liberty in Christ as an excuse to do whatever we want, our lives spiral out of control and we can cause others to fall the same way we have.

The liberty given to us by Christ is so we can serve Him and make Him look great. It was never meant to be a free pass to do whatever we think we should be able to do. When we have that mindset, it shows our heart; we don't realize the price that was paid for the actions we so carelessly are committing.

1 Corinthians 8:10-13 says, "For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat makes my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

Paul tells the Corinthians that by simply sitting at a table where meat sacrifices were offered, they could confuse the younger believers and cause them to stumble, making them think that there was nothing wrong with the sacrifices. Not only would they cause the younger believers' faith to be weakened and wounded, they also were sinning against Christ by not being the example they needed to be.

Finally, Paul promises the Corinthians that he was not even going to eat meat *around* younger believers. Even if it did not go against his conscience, he knew he needed to be someone the newer converts could look up to.

As Christians, we need to be careful that the actions we take won't cause someone to fall or be hurt and confused. We have a responsibility before God to be an example to people who are newer in the faith than we are.

We must use our liberty in Christ as He intended it to be used.

(All Scripture taken from the KJV Bible version.)

About the Authors

Queens For the Cross is an organization of young Christian women that strive to "break the cultural standard" and make a difference in their community by spreading the Word of God before they reach adulthood. Support them by subscribing to *The Scribblers* -- or join them in their mission today!

Contact us at <u>princessgiant8@gmail.com</u> (temporarily -- our email is having technical difficulties) with any questions or comments (the more the better!), and feel free to submit an article (make it roughly half a page long, and make sure every major statement is backed with a Bible verse) to be published in the next edition!