

Saturday, November 19, 2011 – Some Guidelines for Christian Recreation

We are entering the time of year when holiday parties and other recreational activities tend to challenge the Christian in regards to conduct. I found this list of helpful suggestions that we can all use as a guideline when determining activities Christians should participate in:

- 1) Is the practice questionable in your mind?
- 2) Does it destroy your identity as a Christian?
- 3) Does it have a weakening influence on others?
- 4) Is it destructive to your body?
- 5) Does it conflict with your duties as a Christian?
- 6) Does it cultivate inordinate fleshly appetites?
- 7) Does it bring you under weakening influence and association?
- 8) Does it bring upon you unequal yoke and place you at a disadvantage in serving the Lord?
- 9) WOULD CHRIST DO IT?
- 10) Why are you doing it?

Being a Christian is not something we take on and off as the mood strikes us. Paul, in Colossians 3:17, gives the Colossian Christians some specific instructions. He lays down a principle which Christians are to be guided by as they live the Christian life. They must **do all in the name of the Lord**. This means all that they do must be in accordance with the revealed will of God and in submission to his authority. The Christians must ask themselves, is this pleasing to the Lord? Will we bring glory to Jesus Christ when we do this? What is the right thing to do here? Can we do this without compromising our belief in Christ?

May we all apply this principle as we seek to influence the world for Christ.