



MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE, PART 1

Life Group Study -- Week of September 29, 2019

Memorize.

*So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace.
But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works;
otherwise grace would no longer be grace.*

Romans 11:5-6

Open. Share the warmest welcome you have ever experienced. What was done? How did you respond?

Study. Read Romans 14:1-13

If you had the opportunity to hear Pastor Jim's message on Sunday, what stood out to you personally? What questions did it raise for you, if any?

What positive principle does Paul lay down in verse 1? What qualification does he add? Why?

What best characterizes the weakness Paul has in mind here?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. weakness of will | c. weakness of conscience |
| b. weakness of character | d. weakness of self-control |

What disputable matters had the potential of dividing the Christians at Rome (1-8)? What are some that have the potential for dividing Christians today?

How would you go about explaining that while it may be right for one Christ-follower to abstain from meat in order to serve the Lord with a clear conscience, another Christian can freely eat the same meat and give thanks to God (verses 6-8)?

Identify four reasons Paul gives for welcoming the one who is "weak in the faith."

Verses 2-3

Verses 4-9

Verse 10

Verses 10-13

What should we do before we conclude that Scripture is NOT explicit on an issue, and is therefore a matter of conscience?

When we conclude that an issue lies in the area of a matter of conscience, what steps might we take to arrive at a perspective that is nevertheless biblically-informed?

Can you see any area in which you may be a weaker believer (this takes considerable self-awareness and humility)?

If so, in what ways if any might you be putting direct or indirect pressure on other believers to conform to your personal weakness? What adjustments might you need to make?

What questions are you left with at the close of this discussion? How do you want to respond to what we have discussed?

You're praying. Is now the time to share the gospel with your

