



MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE, PART 3

Life Group Study -- Week of January 26, 2019

Memorize.

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.

Romans 15:1-2

Open. What stands out in your memory as the most memorable welcome you have ever received? What made it so memorable?

Study. Read Romans 15:1-13

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

According to verses 1-2, what is the two-part responsibility of those who are strong in faith toward those who are weak in faith?

How does this differ from being a "man-pleaser" rather than a God-pleaser (*Galatians 1:10*)?

How did Jesus Christ demonstrate this priority? How does the quote from Psalm 69:9 in verse 3 shine a different light on what Paul meant by "bearing with" the failings of the weak?

How does Paul's appeal to "whatever was written in former days" (*verse 4*) add weight to his Old Testament quotation in verse 3?

What does verse 4 teach us about the nature and purpose of Scripture?

What priority for the church does the "benediction" in verse 5 reveal?

What does Paul mean by his command that we should "welcome one another"? What did Christ's "welcome" to us require of him? How is a "welcome" different from mere acceptance or tolerance? What are the implications for unity amid diversity in the church?

What does Paul's support for Gentile and Jewish believers welcoming each other in the church reveal about God's original design (*v. 8-12*)?

What specific "hope" does Paul seem to have in mind as he concludes this section in v. 13?

How might the church be different today if we were to follow the model of Jesus as Paul sets it out in v. 3?

Why do you think Paul put an emphasis on the church worshiping with "one voice"? Does that suggest that worship is not merely an individual activity? Why or why not?

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

