



ROMANS

THE ROAD OF FAITH

How do we Live Together with Differences?



Romans 14:1

As for the one who is weak in faith,
welcome him, but not to quarrel
over opinions.

How do we Live Together with Differences?

Issues	The Strong	The Weak
Food		
Holy Days		

Romans 14:2-3

One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.

Romans 14:4

Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:5

One person esteems one **day** as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.

Romans 14:6

The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.

Who are the Weak and the Strong?

- The weak (according to Paul) is a Christian who has come to faith in Christ out of a religious background whose practices still influence his life. He is still controlled by certain traditions, rituals, and customs which prevent him from fully enjoying his freedom in Christ.

Example in 1 Corinthians 8—Pagan Christians were troubled by eating meat that had been offered to idols and were now for sale in the marketplace

Who are the Weak and the Strong?

- **The strong (according to Paul) is a Christian who understood that his former life was not to control his new life in Christ.**

Example in 1 Corinthians 8—He could eat meat offered to idols and was not bothered by its origin.

How do we Live Together with Differences?

Issues	The Strong	The Weak
Food	Eat all kinds of food	Eat only vegetables
Holy Days		

How do we Live Together with Differences?

- 1. We must be welcoming without an argumentative spirit**

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welcome him, but not to quarrel
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How do we Live Together with Differences?

- 1. We must be welcoming without an argumentative spirit**
- 2. We are to accept them with a spirit of grace**

Romans 14:2-3

One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats **despise** the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains **pass judgment** on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.

How do we Live Together with Differences?

- 1. We must be welcoming without an argumentative spirit**
- 2. We are to accept them with a spirit of grace**

***There's no grace when we despise the other**

***There's no grace when we judge the other**

How do we Live Together with Differences?

Issues	The Strong	The Weak
Food	Eat all kinds of food	Eat only vegetables
Holy Days		
Wine	Drink wine	Abstain from wine

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***There's no grace when we despise the other**

***There's no grace when we judge the other**

***There's no grace when we deny the Lord's ability**

How do we Live Together with Differences?

- 1. We must be welcoming without an argumentative spirit**
- 2. We are to accept them with a spirit of grace**
- 3. We must understand that two opposite choices can both bring glory to God.**

Romans 14:5

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Romans 14:6

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Romans 14:7-9

For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

How do we Live Together with Differences?

Issues	The Strong	The Weak
Food	Eat all kinds of food	Eat only vegetables
Holy Days	Makes no distinction among days	Value some days more than others
Wine	Drink wine	Abstain from wine

How do we Live Together with Differences?

- 1. We must be welcoming without an argumentative spirit**
- 2. We are to accept them with a spirit of grace**
- 3. We must understand that two opposite choices can both bring glory to God.**
 - *We live unto the Lord, not ourselves**
 - *We are convinced in our own mind**

How do we convince our own mind?

Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ—Colossians 2:16-17

Every Christian is a believer priest with the responsibility to judge spiritual things for himself—DJeremiah

Romans 14:10a

Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother?

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- 3. We must understand that two opposite choices can both bring glory to God.**
- 4. We must remember we are family**

Romans 14:10b-12

For we will all stand before the judgment seat of
God; for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to
me,

and every tongue shall confess to God.”

So then each of us will give an account of
himself to God.

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- 3. We must understand that two opposite choices can both bring glory to God.**
- 4. We must remember we are family**
- 5. We must remember the Bema Seat of Christ**



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