

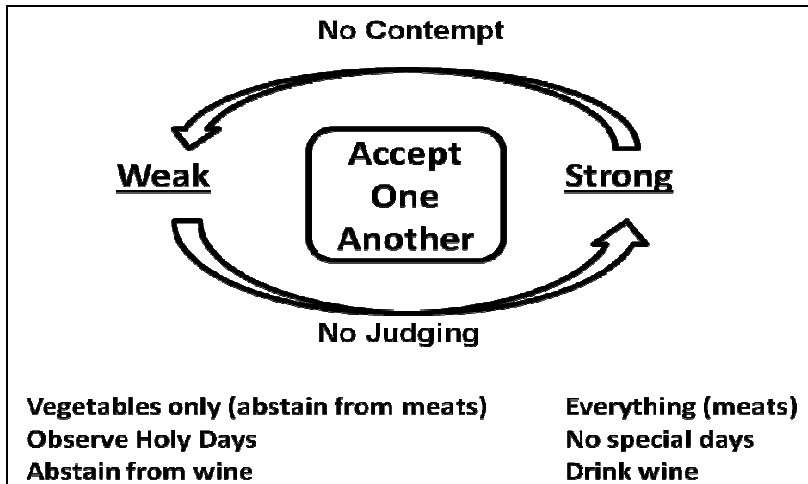
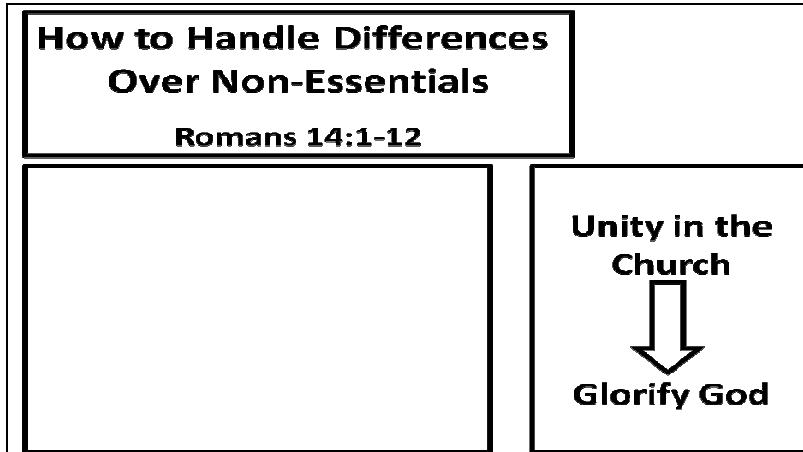
“How to Handle Differences Over Non-Essentials”
Romans 14:1-12

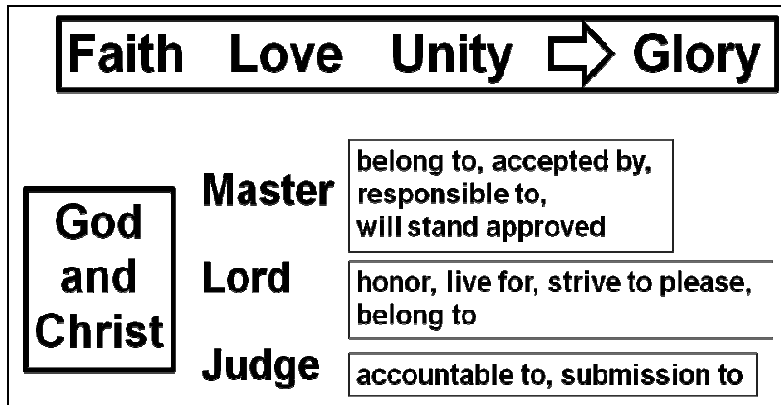
Romans 14:1-12

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ² One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³ 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.

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. 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. 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. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸ 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. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹ for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” ¹² So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.





So, how will I be different today because of these truths?

Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help in the transformation process in which the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

Monday-Tuesday

- After reading Romans 14:1-12, what distinguishes the strong from the weak? What are the strong suppose to stop doing? The weak?
- See Mark 7:17-23 (and, Matthew 15:11) for what Christ says about foods and Acts 10:9-16. Where does defilement come from: impure heart or violation of external rules? How does 1 Timothy 4:3-5 help in the issue?
- Identify one principle that you can put into practice today that will help you to welcome and accept others within the church who differ in various ways?

Wednesday-Thursday

- Read Romans 14:1-12 and identify what is said about God and Christ. How are we to respond to these biblical truths?
- How will this help you to accept and welcome those who differ from you within the church? What changes need to take place within you? Share with someone what you are learning and putting into practice.

Friday-Saturday

- Read Philippians 2:5-11. What is the attitude we should aspire to (vv. 5-7)?
- What is remarkable about Christ’s behavior, according to this passage?
- What was the result of Christ’s attitude? Focus on the glory of God.
- What do you need to do to adopt this attitude as your own? What would it look like in your life? How will this affect your relationship with those who differ from you? Share what you’ve discovered and what you’re working on with a friend and bring it to the Lord in prayer.