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Romans

theology 101

ROMANS 14
STEPS THAT LEAD TO
PEACE AND MUTUAL EDIFICATION



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A. Hold Back Judgment on Disputable Matters. V.1

Romans 14:1 (NIV) Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.



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B. Avoid Looking Down on Those Who Don't Share Your Convictions. Vs.2-4

Romans 14:2-4 (NIV) ² One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³ The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him.



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B. Avoid Looking Down on Those Who Don't Share Your Convictions. Vs.2-4

⁴ Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.



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B. Avoid Looking Down on Those Who Don't Share Your Convictions. Vs.2-4

1 Corinthians 15:9 (NIV) For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.



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B. Avoid Looking Down on Those Who Don't Share Your Convictions. Vs.2-4

Ephesians 3:8 (NIV) Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,



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1 Timothy 1:15 (NIV) Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst.



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B. Avoid Looking Down on Those Who Don't Share Your Convictions. Vs.2-4

"Toleration means frank respect for freedom of indwelling conscience against mechanical forms, official conventions, social force. It means the charity that is greater than faith or hope." Intolerance is a sign both of arrogance and ignorance, for it is a sign that a man believes that there is no truth beyond the truth he sees.

—Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT)



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C. Realize That You Must Live for the Lord Alone. vs.5-12

Romans 14:6-8 (NIV) ⁶ He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone.



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**C. Realize That You Must Live for the Lord
Alone. vs.5-12**

⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.



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**C. Realize That You Must Live for the Lord
Alone. vs.5-12**

Romans 14:12 (NIV) So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.



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C. Realize That You Must Live for the Lord Alone. vs.5-12

2 Corinthians 5:9 (NIV) So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.



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**C. Realize That You Must Live for the Lord
Alone. vs.5-12**

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV) So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.



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D. Make Sure You Don't Put Obstacles in the Way of Others. vs.13-21

Romans 14:13-21 (NIV) ¹³ Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way. ¹⁴ As one who is in the Lord Jesus, I am fully convinced that no food is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean.



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D. Make Sure You Don't Put Obstacles in the Way of Others. vs.13-21

¹⁵ If your brother is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died. ¹⁶ Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,



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D. Make Sure You Don't Put Obstacles in the Way of Others. vs.13-21

¹⁸ because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men. ¹⁹ Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. ²⁰ Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. ²¹ It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.



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D. Make Sure You Don't Put Obstacles in the Way of Others. vs.13-21

1 John 3:16 (NIV) This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.



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D. Make Sure You Don't Put Obstacles in the Way of Others. vs.13-21

1. Your behavior may be a stumbling block to another Christian (13).
2. Your brother may be "grieved" (15).
3. Your behavior may cause him to fall away from God (21).
4. You may destroy his spiritual life altogether (15).
5. God's work may be destroyed in his life (20).



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D. Make Sure You Don't Put Obstacles in the Way of Others. vs.13-21

1 Corinthians 8:13 (NIV) Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.



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**E. Use Discernment in Publicizing your
Personal Convictions. vs.22-23**

Romans 14:22-23 (NIV) ²² So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. ²³ But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.



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