

## **DO'S AND DON'TS OF BROTHERLY LOVE**

### **ROMANS 14:13-23**

**10/12/25**

#### **I. DON'T BE A STUMBLING BLOCK**

*Romans 14:13-16 - "Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. <sup>14</sup> I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. <sup>15</sup> For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. <sup>16</sup> So do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil."*

##### **A. Stronger brothers should operate in deference**

##### **B. Pride prevents walking in love**

#### **II. DO BUILD OTHERS UP**

*Romans 14:17-19 - "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup> Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. <sup>19</sup> So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding."*

##### **A. Focusing on the essentials**

##### **B. Focusing on growing each other**

#### **III. CHECK YOURSELF**

*Romans 14:20-23 - "Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. <sup>21</sup> It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. <sup>22</sup> The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves. <sup>23</sup> But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin."*

##### **A. Are you respecting your brother's convictions?**

##### **B. Are your convictions your own?**

## COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. Most of the instruction in this section is for the stronger brother. Why do you think the stronger brother holds more responsibility when it comes to “stumbling blocks”?
3. How important are convictions for believers? What is our standard for determining whether our convictions are right or wrong?
4. Verse 15 emphasizes the importance of walking in love. What does Paul root our love for other believers in? How can emphasizing and exercising our freedom conflict with our love for other believers?
5. READ I Corinthians 10:31-33. Should our focus be on freedom or love and unity? Does this change how tightly you might hold to different freedoms?
6. How can we pursue peace and build each other up? How does avoiding stumbling blocks fit into this? What does it look like to avoid stumbling blocks or hinderances in your family and friendships?
7. READ verse 23. Why is it a sin for someone to go against their convictions, even if their convictions aren't clearly outlined in Scripture?
8. What is one thing from the group or message that I want to live out in my life, and how can my group help me do that?