



## • Pastor Kelli Wommack “One Anothering: Accept One Another” 5/8/2022

### Key Verses:

- Romans 14:1 – 15:13

### Key Thoughts:

- The Creator of our community calls us to imitate Jesus in sacrificial love toward one another so that we can share that Love with people outside of our community.
- God has created us such that it's an innate desire in us to be accepted.
- In Romans, Paul was writing to Jewish Christians who knew all the boxes to check and even though Jesus had come into their life, they were still attached to their customs. He was also writing to the Gentiles, any person that wasn't of Jewish descent, so they knew very little about Jewish customs and laws. He's writing to two groups of people that are very different trying to be one body of Christ.
- In Chapter 14 and 15 of Romans, Paul is writing about accepting one another. There are certain “disputable matters” on the table: Food and Sabbath. Those from Jewish custom still wanted to eat food prepared according to Jewish law and the Gentiles didn't. Jewish Christians still wanted to observe and Sabbath, while Gentiles may have not even known much about Sabbath. Despite these disputable matters, the only thing that matters for salvation is Christ's death and resurrection.
- Paul is telling them to not put any stumbling block between them and their brother or sister. If your brother is distressed because of what you're doing, you are no longer acting in love. Paul says (14:20), “Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food.” It may not be food for you, but it could be another matter for you – like music, politics, etc.
- Our preferences are not over the supremacy of Christ. Paul tells them (15:8) that Christ has become of servant of the Jews so that the promises made to their ancestors would be confirmed AND a servant of the Gentiles would know the mercy of God.

What Acceptance Is NOT (necessarily):	What Acceptance IS:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agreement</li><li>• Approval</li><li>• Simply tolerance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accepting as Christ accepts</li><li>• Not judgmental</li><li>• Love – Romans 5:8</li><li>• Not a stumbling block to others</li><li>• Grace</li><li>• Glorifying to God</li></ul>

### Discussion Questions:

1. What is your \_\_\_\_ (Romans 14:20)? What is the disputable matter that would cause you to break fellowship with your brother or sister?
2. What resonates with you about what acceptance is not and what it is?
3. Why do you feel that we struggle with accepting each other in Christian community?