

“Living In Harmony”
Discovering Romans 12:16
Caleb Pearson

TABLE TALK:

Who in your life thinks the way you do? How can you tell? Describe how the following might factor into your answer: personality, goals, interests, background...etc.

Who thinks very differently from you?

Today we are going to talk about harmony. What do you think it means to be “in harmony”? What imagery or real life examples come to mind when you hear that word?

“HARMONY” IN THE WORLD:



Harmony in the Movies...

Merriam-Webster offers three definitions...

- 1.) the structure of _____ with respect to the _____ and _____ of _____.
- 2.) a _____ arrangement of _____.
- 3.) an _____ of different _____ into a single _____.

“HARMONY” IN THE WORD:



Romans 12:16 (translation comparison and arrival at the true definition)

“Live in harmony with one another” (ESV, NIV,...)

“Be of the same mind toward one another” (NASB, KJV,...)

? – “It’s all Greek to me!”

The Greek: *phroneō* - to _____ .
(agreeable; cherish the same view)

For today, let's stick to the NASB translation, that conveys the application of *phroneō*:

Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. (Romans 12:16)

THE CONTENT:

Verses 1-2 serve as the BASIS (Read along)

1.) The mind must be _____ !

Verses 3-15 serve as the BUILD-UP (Read along)

2.) Harmonious Christian living is not about a _____ match,
but a _____ arrangement.

Direct Context: Romans 12:15 and 12:16b

3.) Meet people in whatever is happening with all _____.

PERSONAL STORY

ELSEWHERE IN SCRIPTURE...

Phil 1:7

Matt 16:23

Col 3:2

TESTIMONIAL

GROUP DISCUSSION:

Can you name some worldly examples of people being “of the same mind”? (What are some things people tend to “unite” around in terms of communal thought?) What are the strengths and weaknesses to this mentality in the world?

It seems that a good “single narrative” for Christian harmony could be “To God, we were worth saving. To us, He is worth glorifying.” (Romans 15) Do you think though, that it's easy for a Christian community to get distracted and convey a narrative that isn't this one? Discuss some ways God's people fall short by communicating a wrong narrative.

PRAYER