

Connect Group Guide: “Loving From Belonging | Romans 14”



Passage: Romans 14:1–23

Sermon Link: <https://youtu.be/pZCHCtCqgis>

Welcome:

(Choose a question for your group to discuss)

- Have you ever had to hold your opinion for the sake of saving a relationship? Please share...

Worship:

(You may choose to use YouTube or other mediums to facilitate your time of worship)

-  Who Am I - HVN & EARTH

Word:

(Discuss these questions in your group, encourage everyone to take part)

Before reading the scripture:

- How can we love people who are difficult to love?
- Have you ever had to make a decision to keep loving someone who was difficult to love? How did it go?

Read: Romans 14:1-23

- What is the difference between belonging to Christ and belonging in Christ?

- True unity is not based on past or preference, but on belonging to Christ and belonging in Christ. Discuss...
- Verse 3 speaks about treating others with contempt and judgement. What do you think this means?
- Verse 17 says that God's kingdom is about righteousness, peace, and joy. Why do you think Paul decided to highlight these 3? Which one addresses your heart?
 - Righteousness - Paul says that **because of Jesus Christ**, God's Kingdom is about knowing that **we are in a state acceptable to God**, and helping others to be right with God.
 - Peace - Paul says God's Kingdom is about living with a kind of **security and safety that does not depend on good circumstances, but on who God is**.
 - Joy - Paul says God's Kingdom is about a deep **unmovable gladness that comes from knowing who we belong to**.

Works:

(Take some time for personal reflecting on the following questions and then share back with the group)

- Know - We love others because we belong *to* Christ and *in* Christ.
Stop - Judging others
Do - Make every effort to live in peace and mutual edification.

Which one of these is God speaking to you about?

- How can we love those who are difficult to love, knowing that we belong to the same heavenly Father?

Closing:

(Remember to ask for prayer requests.)

Pray that God's Spirit may give us the encouragement and endurance to love others well.

