

INSIDEout Series
Week 20 outline
7.4.21
Romans 14

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER!
or WELCOME-ISH: IF WE AGREE ON EVERYTHING?

I. Romans 14 Thesis Statement (14:1)

A. Confusion between Unity and Uniformity

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."
- John 17:20-21

B. Difference between Opinions and Commands

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." - John 13:34-35

II. DO NOT DESPISE (14:2-13a)

A. WELCOME because God has welcomed (v. 2-3)

1. The Bible does not say, "Let the strong convince the weak to change their mind." Instead, the Bible says, "Stop judging each other critically"
2. *How can we condemn those God has already accepted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ?*

B. WELCOME because Christ died and rose to be Lord (v. 4-9)

What do we do?

1. Remember we are fellow stewards and servants of Christ!
2. Be fully convinced in YOUR OWN mind (v. 5)
3. Honor the Lord—we all live and die to God and for God. We all are the Lord's! Be worshipful to Him and give thanks to God. That is our common denominator — we are HIS!

- C. WELCOME because we are brothers and sisters in Christ (v. 10a)
 - 1. The Family of God is a family made by God through the work of Jesus Christ
 - 2. *How can we love and welcome our fellow sibling-saints?*
- D. WELCOME because we will all stand before God's Judgment (v. 10b-13a)
 - 1. We will give an account of ourselves not of others TO GOD
 - 2. *What account will I give for the thoughts and actions I hold?*

III. DO NOT DESTROY (14:13b-21)

- A. WELCOME because they are brothers and sisters for whom Christ died (v.14-16)
 - 1. On one hand, "nothing is unclean in itself." All these things that are not sin are permissible to participate in. We have the freedom in Christ!
 - 2. On the other hand, we must recognize that we should use our freedom to express love to others
 - 3. There are times when the loving thing to do is to limit our freedoms so we do not undo the work of Christ in others
- B. WELCOME because the kingdom of God is more important than food (or fill in the blank) (v. 17-21)
 - 1. The Kingdom of God is about the Holy Spirit working genuine righteousness, peace, and joy in a person — GOSPEL TRANSFORMATION
 - 2. *Are you calling others to obey manmade rules, or are you calling them deeper into life with the Holy Spirit?*

IV. Romans 14 Concluding Statement (14:22-23)

- A. Our Personal Conscience — what we believe to be right or wrong where the Bible does not give clear command or teaching...
- B. But we always need Romans 12:2: "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."
- C. It is Transformed by the Gospel, the Word of God, & the Freedom Christ gives!

What could it look like if we recognize each of us living in Christ may look different based on our S.H.A.P.E. — Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences?