

SERMON NOTES:

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is your most unlikely friend—someone people might look at and think, “*How are you two even friends?*” What’s different about the two of you, and why do you think you connect so well?
2. Read Romans 14:1–6. Jewish believers had long understood food laws and sacred days to be part of honoring God. Now, through Jesus, Gentiles were included in God’s people, and the whole church needed to work out what following Jesus meant for those practices. What are some ways you’ve seen Christians practice their faith differently? What are some ways we follow Jesus differently from one another in this group?

3. Read Romans 14:10–12. Paul reminds us that Christian community is not held together by our similarity. We are here because God has accepted each one of us into His family. Have you ever felt like you didn't belong because you practiced your faith different than the Christians around you? Have you ever felt like someone else didn't belong because they practiced their faith differently from you?
4. Read Romans 14:1–4 and Ephesians 4:11–16. Christians are called to grow toward unity in the knowledge of Christ and to accept one another as we disagree along the way. How do we hold those two things together?
5. Romans 14:5 says each person should be “fully convinced in their own mind.” How can we be confident in what we believe while still giving other Christians room to wrestle, learn, and become “fully convinced in *their* own mind”?
6. Romans 14:12 says, “each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.” Paul does not say every conviction is equally right—he says each person will answer to God. But his emphasis is that unity is more important than being right with these kinds of things. How might that perspective change how you respond to conflict or disagreement?