**ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER**

Romans 14:1-15:13 (Key 15:7)

*“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”*

**\*Introduction[[1]](#footnote-1)**

1. Who are the “weak” and the “strong” and how should they treat each other? (14:1-3) What are “disputable matters?” (2, 3, 5a, 21) Identify two reasons why we should accept one another instead of judging? (4, 5-9)
2. When we are tempted to judge or despise a brother or sister, what should we remember? (10-12) What should we do instead of judging (13a)? Why is *to not put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother or sister’s way* such a serious matter? (14-15) How can we keep a healthy perspective in resolving disputable matters? (16-18)
3. What should we make every effort to do? (19) How can we do so? (20-21) As we struggle to edify the church, what principles should guide our way of life? (22-23)
4. What obligation do the strong have toward the weak? (15:1-2) What does it mean to bear with the failings of the weak? To build them up? How does Christ’s example help us? (3) And the Scriptures? (4) What can we learn from Paul’s prayer? (5-6)

1. Read verse 7. What does it mean to “accept one another?” How does Christ’s grace enable us to do this? Why should we? How did Jesus unite the Jews and Gentiles as one? (8) For what purpose (9a) How did this fulfill Scripture? (9b-12) Why do you think Paul prays a second time? (13) What can you learn from his prayer?

1. Today’s passage deals with conflicts that arise in the Christian community, not over essentials of the Christian faith, but over secondary issues. When conflicts arise, it is easy to judge others or hold them in contempt. Unless these issues are resolved properly, the church cannot be united. So, in this passage, Paul dealt with this matter very seriously. Like the Roman church, we also experience conflicts over secondary issues, such as cultural differences, views on baptism, worship attire, music, leadership styles, or character differences. Though these may seem to be small matters, they will hinder the unity of our ministry. So, we need to take them seriously. In today’s passage we can learn the only way is to accept one another just as Christ accepted us. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)