

September 7, 2025

Unity Over Uniformity

Pastor Brian Greenleaf



Romans 14

Do not judge (Matthew 7:1-5)

- The Christian is called to show unconditional _____ not unconditional _____
- “Jesus did not prohibit the judgment of others. He only requires that our judgment be completely fair, and that we only judge others by a standard we would also like to be judged by. When our judgment in regard to others is wrong, it is often not because we judge according to a standard, but because we are hypocritical in the application of that standard – we ignore the standard in our own life. It is common to judge others by one standard and ourselves by another standard – being far more generous to ourselves than others.” ~ David Guzik

Guidelines to managing disputable matters

1. Obey your _____
2. Be patient with those who do not see things the _____
3. Prioritize your fellow believer's _____ over your spiritual _____
4. Promote _____ and the _____ of others
5. Prioritize _____ over _____

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Sermon Talks

1. Read Romans 14.
2. What were some key takeaways from this passage for you? What challenges do you face in your walk with Jesus as a result of this passage?
3. One of the themes Paul seems to emphasize in Romans 14 is unity over uniformity. In what ways does the local church tend to miss the mark in this area?
4. In what ways have you seen Satan try and bring division to the body of Christ? What lessons can be learned from those examples?
5. Paul begins this chapter by telling his readers to “not argue about disputed matters.” Define the phrase disputed matters.
6. Paul says in verse 6 that those who fall on both sides of a dispute can, and often do, honor the Lord with their choices. He goes on in verses 10-12 to ask, “Why do you judge your brother and sister?” Then he asks, “Or you, why do you despise your brother and sister?”
 - How would you answer the questions Paul poses in these verses?
7. In what ways does this passage change your perspective? How should you treat people who disagree with you on non-essential issues?
8. If there is something you have a conviction against, how do you prevent yourself from judging those who do not share that same conviction?
9. What does God call us to do instead of dividing over differing convictions? How can you live out this principle?
10. Read Colossians 4:2-6. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in a time of prayer.

Pray about it: Meditate on God’s Word (Romans 14) and this week’s message.

Adoration: What can I praise God for in light of what this teaches me?

Confession: What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving: What can I thank God for in light of what he has done?

Supplication: What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?