

## **Welcomed by God (Romans 14:1-12)**

**Pastor Deric**

*(1) As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.*

*(2) One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. (3) Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.*

*(4) Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.*

*(5) One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. (6) The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. (7) For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. (8) For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.*

*(9) For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.*

*(10) Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; (11) for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." (12) So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.*

### **Practical Application**

1. Because of Jesus Christ you can be welcomed by God into His family.
2. You don't have to be right about everything and do everything perfectly to be accepted by God.
3. God knows you need His grace, forgiveness, and patience. If you want Him and want to be a part of His family you can have Him. All of this is because of His wonderful Son, Jesus.
4. We are to welcome each other as God has welcomed us.
5. We are not to quarrel and fight over our differing opinions.
6. Some in God's family have weak faith and others have strong faith. No matter the amount of faith a person has you are to love and welcome them.
7. I don't know everything and you don't know everything. But Jesus knows everything, and He welcomes and accepts all of His people. We should follow Him and His perfect example.
8. Don't despise those who have different opinions than you because God loves them.
9. Don't judge those who have different opinions than you because you are not their judge, God is.
10. You and I are not the judge in matters of opinion. We are not to pass judgement on those who are serving God.
11. God is the loving, sovereign, all knowing, and perfectly wise judge. We all must give an account to Him.
12. Jesus is our benevolent Master, King, & Lord. We stand or fall before Him. He will uphold us and help us to stand.
13. We are all accountable to Jesus Christ. He is the best accountability partner there is. He always patiently speaks the truth in love. He knows the truth, the whole truth, and speaks nothing but the truth. His perspective, views, and opinions are always right and best. We should listen to Him, learn from Him, and bow before Him.
14. Jesus will welcome, accept, lead, uphold, and carry you home.

15. In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, liberty. In all things, charity (love). Don't forget basic Christianity, simple Christianity, mere Christianity. Consider the basic tiers of Christian doctrine and practice, and the importance of theological triage.
16. In your eating, drinking, and living, do it all for the honor, glory, and praise of God.
17. In your observance of days, weeks, and years, observe them all for the honor, glory, and praise of God. Love and worship Him every day. Put Jesus first on every day.
18. Do everything you do out of gratitude and in thanksgiving to God.
19. Live for God, die for God, do everything you do both now and forever for God.
20. Jesus Christ lived, died, rose again, ascended into heaven, and is coming back again. He is Lord. We belong to Him. Surrender fully to Him, bow before Him, submit joyfully to Him, live under His perfect Lordship in every area of your life.
21. Live out what you believe each day. Ask God to show you how to best live and love. If you are wrong He can show you. He accepts and welcomes you even when you are wrong. He is patient with us when we are wrong. He is always right and He is always good.
22. Don't let unwelcoming, unaccepting, judgmental, and quarrelsome Christians hinder your own personal relationship with God. Learn to distinguish His voice from the voice of people. Learn to distinguish His ways from the ways of people. We are all imperfect, but Jesus is perfect. Look to Him, trust in Him, and rest in Him every day.
23. You don't know another person's heart and you don't even know perfectly your own heart. Only God knows the human heart, only He knows your heart and the heart of others. Leave that work to Him, and know that we all need Jesus.
24. You and I will stand before God's judgement seat. We are all accountable to God. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, free, and empowered to live the way God desires. In the end it will not matter what people thought about you.
25. What matters now and forever is what God thinks about you. Seek to live your life fully for the God that loves you, accepts you, and welcomes you into His forever family, even in all your imperfections. Jesus loves you. Love and welcome others like Jesus loves and welcomes you.

### **Announcements**

-Kid's summer Soccer Camp will be June 10-12 (6-8pm).

-Kid's summer Art Camp will be July 15-18 (5:30-8pm).

-No regular Wednesday night activities over the Summer Break.

-Our Youth Group meets each Wednesday night from 6-7:30. See David Barrero for more info.

-Please be praying for Michael and Elijah Garrison as they go on a mission trip to love and serve the Navajo people in New Mexico with Word of Life Ministry alongside Wayne and Kim Price. The trip is June 23-July 8th.

-All of our Small Groups meet weekly. See our small group guide to find one that is best for you.