

# SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

## Relation-ship or Sink

*Belonging – Romans 14:8*

## Discussion Points

*October 31, 2021*

### Read/Reflect

1. Read Romans 14. What part of Paul's argument about building relationship stands out the most for you (the argument carries on through to chapter 15:13)?
2. Is there a way that you would summarize or characterize how to live with others based on Romans 14?

### Explore

3. What elements for strong relationships (listed below) do you abide by? What's your success rate?
  - Welcoming people whose faith is weak (vs.1)
  - Refrain from judging one with whom you disagree (vs.4)
  - Not living (or dying) to yourself alone (vs.7)
  - Rooting perspective in "belonging to the Lord" (vs.8)
  - Not placing or being an obstacle for others (vs.13)
  - Seek first the kingdom, not your own ideas (vs.17,18)
  - Guarding your opinions between you and God (vs.22)
4. Why do the above elements sometimes work or not work? What do you do when it doesn't work?
5. What are the "disputable matters" (vs.1) that Paul discusses in Romans 14? What are some disputable matters today?
6. Choosing one of the above issues you've listed, how does it effect your relationships, how does it effect unity in the body of Christ? How might you apply some of the instructions from Rom.14 to bring healing, even if only to yourself?

### Pray

- ✝ Pray for the fruit of the Holy Spirit to be evident in your life (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) in the midst of relationships marred by "disputable matters."
- ✝ Thank God for the comfort that comes from belonging to God, the basis for any relationship.



# Relationship or Sink?