

Growth Group Discussion Q's

November 9, 2025

Fun Discussion Starter: What's one thing that can instantly make your day better?

Review:

The Roman church consisted of a diverse group of people with varied social, cultural and religious backgrounds. In their desire to honor the Lord, each one had sincerely held convictions that determined what that looked like. To honor the varying degrees of spiritual maturity and conviction, the apostle gave a series of commands to help the community navigate their differences in love. This resulted in the following principles and commands:

1. Diversity of conscience in the church is normal and healthy
2. We are to be welcoming of one another and resist judgment
3. Those with greater freedom of conscience (strong) ought to voluntarily limit their freedom for the good of those with a more restrictive conscience (weak).

Read Text: **Romans 14:13 – 15:3** (since this is a longer reading, it may be helpful members of the group to take turns reading a few verses each)

Questions:

- In the past two weeks, has God used a particular aspect of Sunday worship to speak to you that you would like to share (e.g. answered prayer, provision of clarity, taught you something new, revealed his character, etc.)?
- Navigating the nuances of another's conscience implies that we are attuned to one another and understand what difference exists between us. Pastor Mark suggested a tactic of being curious and asking good questions with the goal of seeking to understand. How is this a helpful tactic when encountering differing viewpoints? How does this tactic communicate value to another person?
- In 14:13, Paul exhorts the believers to “never put a stumbling block or hinderance in the way of a brother (or sister).” And in v.16, “Do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil.” How can something that is inherently “good” become a stumbling block or considered evil? (see 14:14, 20).
- Read 14:21. Does this mean that believers should “never eat (unclean) meat or drink wine” under ANY circumstances? When is it permissible and when should it be abstained from?
- Paul writes that one can violate *one's own* conscience by what they approve, thus condemning themselves (v.22). Our spiritual lives are dynamic – meaning that we are all continually growing and changing in our journey of faith. Are there things in your own spiritual journey that you once considered “off limits” that you now have come to see as good?
- What are practical ways we can act in love toward one another to build others up by deferring our own pleasure for their sake (15:2)?