

- Session 44 of 52 😊
- MEN to MEN Ministries
- A Bible Study about a letter written to the Church in Rome

Romans

14:13-23

One Thing



Just Larry

3

- Far edge of my beginning
- Three parts of ANTHROPOS
 - Body – SARX
 - Spirit – PNEUMA
 - Mind – PSYCHI
- The foundation of my life has to be about more than who I am
- What makes me content?
- Fulfillment brings happiness.
- One thing

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes; first to the Jew then to the Gentile.

For in the gospel, the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written:

“THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH.”

Romans 1:16,17

Context

- Problems in the Roman Church (it was all about unity)
- Weaker felt it was mandatory to keep the laws of Moses
 - Accepted Jesus as Savior
 - But tradition, custom, upbringing demanded compliance (days, food, drink)
 - Judged those who did not believe the way they did
- Stronger felt it was unnecessary and could do all things in freedom.
 - Accepted Jesus as Savior
 - All the tradition was not necessary and judged them as weak
- Paul told them to stop judging and start accepting
- Romans 14:13-23 tells them both to knock it off.

**Where there is
light there will be
bugs!**

5

A group of five people, including a man and four children, are standing on a gravel path. They are all wearing backpacks and looking towards a yellow school bus parked on the road. The bus has a red stop sign on its side. The scene is outdoors with trees and bushes in the background. The image has a torn paper effect at the bottom.

Well intentioned dragons!

Romans 14:13-23 NASB

6

13. Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

14. I know and am convinced in the Lord that nothing is to be unclean, to him it is

Love triumphs Liberty

15. For if because of food your brother is destroyed with your food him for whom Christ died.

16. Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil.

17. For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

One thing

18. For he who in this way serves Christ

19. So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

20. Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

21. It is good not to eat meat or to drink

No one wins if someone wins.

22. The faith which you have, have as your conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves of.

23. But he who doubts is condemned if he eats because his eating is not from faith, and whatever is not from faith is sin.



Love triumphs liberty

7

- 1. Love does not judge others on non-essential matters but determines not to put obstacles or stumbling blocks in a brother's way 14:13**
- 2. Love is in Lord Jesus and sets the standards 14:14**
- 3. Love does not cause a weaker brother to violate his conscience 14:15**
- 4. Love does not insist on rights to the point of damaging a weaker brother's walk with God. 14:16**

13. Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

14. I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

15. For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

16. Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil.

Love for others should govern our exercise of liberty in Christ when our liberty would cause a weaker brother to stumble.

Love triumphs over Liberty

2

Keep the main thing the main thing

9

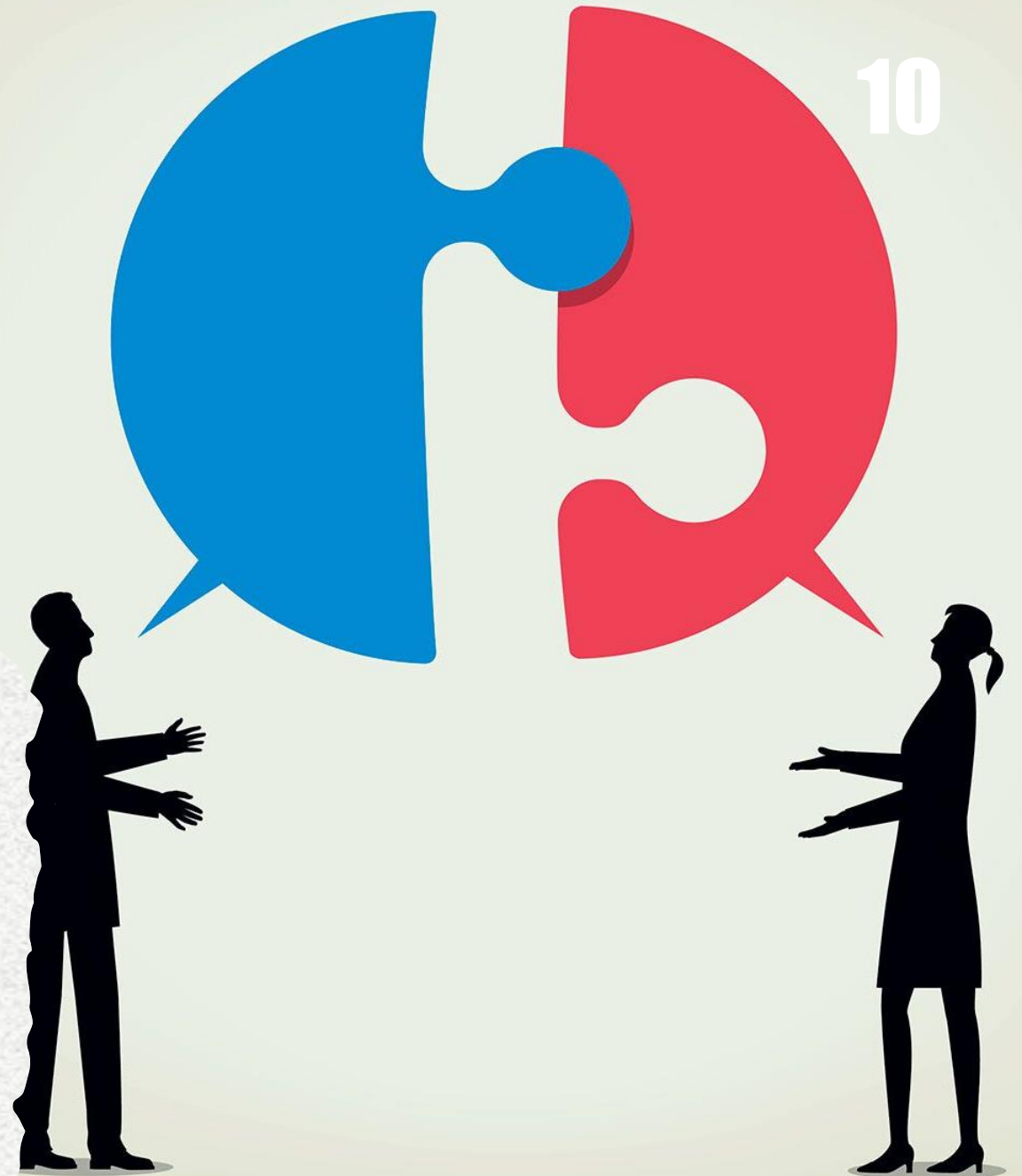
1. It is not the external but the internal
2. The main thing is The Kingdom of God
 - The Kingdom is where He rules and I submit
 - God's kingdom centers on Love of God and Love of others.
3. God's Kingdom is about serving Him with acceptance of God and man's approval



17. For the Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

18. For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.

**The Greatest
threat to the
church is not
sin, but a lack of
unity.**





No one wins if someone wins.

- 1. Relationships v19**
- 2. Priorities v20,21**
- 3. Convictions v22**
- 4. Conscience v23**



- 19. So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.**
- 20. Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.**
- 21. It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.**
- 22. The faith which you have, have as your conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves of.**
- 23. But he who doubts is condemned if he eats because his eating is not from faith, and whatever is not from faith is sin.**

As Christians, we should pursue godly relationships. v19



1. Can't we all just get along.
2. Unity was, is, and always be the goal of the church.
 1. Meat eaters and the vegetarians
 2. Hymn people and spiritual songs
3. We should pursue the things that build up and not tear down

No one wins if it destroys peace and tears down your brother

19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

As Christians, we should pursue godly priorities. V20-21



PRIORITIES

1.
2.
3.

- Referring to the stronger brother who eats and causes his weaker brother to stumble
- Work of God is the church. Its priorities, its goals, its calling
- When we put ourselves ahead of God's purpose, we are tearing down the unity of the church and therefore the church itself.

No one wins if it tears down the church

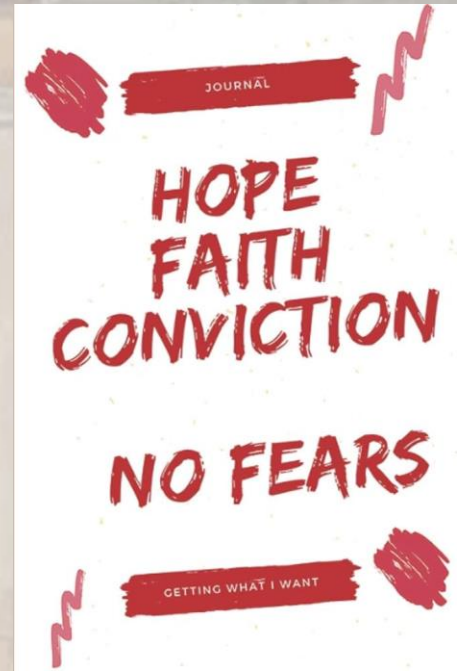
V 20—21 Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

As Christians we should pursue godly convictions

- Not convictions that are directly prohibited by Scripture
- Convictions are something we develop
- What would Jesus Want (WWJW)
- Righteous convictions bring happiness.

No one wins if it your conviction is WWJW



The faith which you have, have as your conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves of. v22

As Christians we should develop a godly conscience

15

When a Christian does something, what ever it might be, and he has a conviction that it is appropriate for him in his liberty, and it causes internal concern, tread lightly. It might well be God telling you that you need to reexamine your conviction.



No one wins if it your conscience is not from faith

But he who doubts is condemn if he eats because his eating is not from faith, and whatever is not from faith is sin. V 23