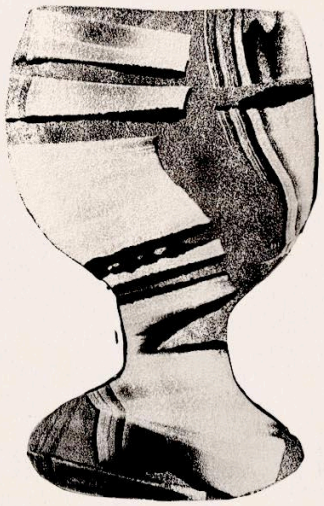


FAITH AS EMBODIED LIFE

The Cost of Welcome
08.30.2026
Dave Lomas
Romans 14:1-17; 15:1-7

Romans 14:1-17; 15:1-7
Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord.

So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.'"
So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister. I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean. If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died. Therefore do not let what you know is good be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval.
Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall.
So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves. But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

- Jesus in **John 13:34**

Romans 14:1
Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters.

Romans 14:17
For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:2-3
One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them.

Romans 14:2
One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

Romans 14:14
I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean.

Beware of the damage that can be caused by acting against conviction.

Welcome / Accept (14:1) – proslambanō, to take to oneself, hospitality
Never put a stumbling block or a hinderance in the way (14:13)
Don't destroy someone for whom Christ died by what you eat (14:15,20)
Pursue what makes for peace and building up (14:19)
Bear with the weakness of the unpowerful (15:1)
Please your neighbor for their good (15:2)
Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you. (15:7)

Mark 8:35
Whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

Romans 12:1
Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 15:7 [ESV]
Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:3
Christ did not please himself…

Romans 15:5
May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had.

Philippians 2:5
In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Romans 14:23
But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

Golden Triangle of Welcome
Can we both give thanks to God for it? (14:6)?
Am I acting from my own conviction before God? (14:5, 22-23)
Does my practice put anything in their way? (14:13, 15, 12)