

Living Under the Same Rules...Reef...LORD, Part Two
Romans 14-15 (Today 14:13-15:13)

LAST WEEK we covered **Major Point #1, 14:1-12**: Both “strong” and “weak” need to stop condemning each other because it is the Lord, and he alone, who has the right to assess the believer’s status and conduct. Stop fighting! Accept one another!

→Our focus should be when we stand before the Lord one day.

Major Point #2, 14:13-23

The “strong” must be careful not to cause the “weak” to _____ by their insistence on exercising their liberty on disputed matters. Such insistence violates the essence of the kingdom, which is to manifest love and concern for one another.

→Our focus is not _____; it is building up the kingdom.

- **PRINCIPLE #1**: Freedoms are good, but they should never _____ of one who is weaker in faith (14:13-15).
- **PRINCIPLE #2**: _____ in righteousness/peace/joy is what is important in the kingdom of God not being “_____” on disputable matters (14:16–21).

Concerning the issue of meat in this passage:

- 1) Jesus** memorably proclaimed all foods to be legitimate for eating in Mark 7:1–23 (esp. vv. 18–19).
- 2) Jesus gave Peter** a vision three times to show him that Christians must not make food an issue (Acts 10:9–16).
- 3) In 1 Corinthians 8:8**, “Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.”
- 4) Finally, Romans 14:17** shows that the kingdom of God has nothing to do with food and drink.

- **PRINCIPLE #3**: A person who lives according to their conviction before God is _____ (14:22b–23).

Major Points #3, 15:1-6

The “strong” must give preference to the weak, relying on God to grant the _____ needed to maintain unity to the glory of God.

→Our focus is _____, which always puts the needs of others first.

Major Point #4, 15:7-13

Both “strong” and “weak” should accept each other as full and respected members of the Christian community, believing that God will fill them with _____.

→Our focus is that we are a _____ body, living for greater _____.

Motivated by _____, 15:7

Motivated by _____, 15:8-12

Motivated by the _____, 15:7