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## **THE TITLE: Community Is Built On** Acceptance **THE PASSAGE:**Romans 14:1-12 **THE POINT:**Acceptance Strengthens Our Relationships.

**THE FOCUS:** John 1:12-13

**THE GOSPEL CULTURE:**

Inspiring communities where the gospel saturates our experience, and doubters become believers who become declarers of the gospel.

1. **STOP JUDGING**

**Romans 14:1-4**

**1** As for the one who is weak in faith, **welcome him**, but not to quarrel **over opinions.** **2**One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. **3**Let not the one who eats **despise** the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains **pass judgment** on the one who eats, **for God has welcomed him.** **4**Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own masterthat he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

1. **HONOR GOD**

**Romans 14:5-8**

**5**One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. **Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.** **6**The one who observes the day, observes it in **honor of the Lord**. The one who eats, eats in **honor of the Lord**, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains **in honor of the Lord** and gives thanks to God. **7**For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. **8**For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

**3. REMOVE OBSTACLES**

**Romans 14:9-12**

**9**For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

**10**Why do you **pass judgment** on your brother? Or you, why do you **despise your brother**? For **we will all** stand before the judgment seat of God; **11**for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall confessto God.” **12**So then **each of us** will give an account of himself to God.

**Family Questions:**

1. How should we behave when dealing with conflict with other believers?
2. How does seeing God as owner challenge how you see fellow believers?
3. How do you balance enjoying your freedoms and removing stumbling blocks for others?