



When in Rome: Unity without Conformity

By Kevin Kusunoki, July 14, 2024

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarrelling over disputable matters. One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

Romans 14:1-2 NIV

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.

Romans 14:14-15 NIV

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 do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall.

Romans 14:20-21 NIV

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves.

Romans 15:1 NIV

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Romans 15:7 NIV

Three steps to unity:

- Step One: Tolerate  one another
- Step Two: Adjust  for one another
- Step Three: Bear  with one another

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What are some areas where you have struggled with accepting or welcoming others who have different convictions or practices than you?
2. Who are some people you can begin “accepting” in greater measure in your life?