

RELATIONAL SURVIVAL GUIDE



September 24, 2017

Pastor Dan Seitz

How to Be a Terrific Co-Traveler (in the New Creation “Group Tour”) Romans 14-15:8

“Merry Christmas to you too, Chairman A.!”

Being a Terrific Co-Traveler: Paul’s Five Pieces of Instruction

1. Don’t miss Scripture’s extreme _____ on considerate co-travel.

ESV **Romans 12:10** Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

2. Recognize (and even celebrate!) that the travel party includes people who are _____ - _____ from you.

ESV **Romans 15:8** For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

ESV **Genesis 12:3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

ESV **Galatians 3:13** Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us--... ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles,...

ESV **Ephesians 3:6** This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

3. If you’re a believer with a more *accommodating* conscience, don’t _____ those on the “bus” with more exacting ones.

ESV **Romans 14:1** 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. If you’re a believer with a more *exacting* conscience, don’t _____ those on the “bus” with more accommodating ones.

ESV **Romans 14:1** 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.

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

A Moment to Consider What Paul is *Not* Saying

ESV **Romans 14:10** 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 confess to God." ¹² So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

NLT **Romans 14:12** Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God.

ESV **Romans 14:5** 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.

5. Graciously express yourself _____ where necessary to avoid offense.

ESV **Romans 14:13** Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. ¹⁴ I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. ¹⁵ For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. ...²¹ It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.

Digging Deeper into Our Relationship to the “Weaker”

This week’s passages:

Monday: Romans 14:1-4

Tuesday: Romans 14:5-9

Wednesday: Romans 14:10-12

Thursday: Romans 14:13-23

Friday: Romans 15:1-7

Saturday: Romans 1:8-13

This week our study leads us into a review of Paul’s “travel instruction.” Each day you are invited to read the day’s passage and then respond to the following questions. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. **Read** the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. **Record** or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you, staying especially alert to the ways of Christ.
3. **Reflect** and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. **Respond** by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word (“*Be doers of the word and not hearers only*” James 1:22).