

## Living Free in a Community of Grace Romans 14:1-12

**Community** = A group of Christians

**Grace** = Undeserved favor, forgiveness, patience, love, kindness, acceptance

**A community of grace accepts people whom God has said are acceptable** Romans 14:1-4  
*"...for God has accepted him."* (v. 3)

- Accepting people with "weaker" faith (v. 1-3a)
- Personal faith in Jesus as Savior and "Master" determines people's acceptance by God (v. 3b-4)

**A community of grace recognizes people who authentically worship Jesus** Romans 14:5-9  
*"He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord..."* (v. 6)

- Authentic worship is rooted in being from God and for God (v. 5-8)
- Authentic worship is rooted in the good news of Jesus Christ (v. 9)

**A community of grace points people to God's authority, not their own judgment**

Romans 14:10-12

*"So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."* (v. 12)

- We will all equally stand before God one day (v. 10-12)
- Jesus will be our advocate at the Judgment seat (1 John 2:1-2)

## Corporate Prayer Response from Romans 14:1-12

In our differences of worship styles and Church practices...

*May we be a community of grace*

In our differences of age, backgrounds and interests...

*May we be a community of grace*

In our diversity of spiritual gifts, vocational callings and future goals...

*May we be a community of grace*

For the sake of unbelievers here in Orange County and the world...

*May we be a community of grace*

For the sake of future generations that follow us here at Calvary Church...

*May we be a community of grace*

Because of the amazing grace we have received thru Jesus Christ...

*May we be a community of grace*

*All: How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in peace! (Psalm 133:1)*

### LifeGroup Questions:

1. **Read Romans 14:1-4 as a group.** A community of grace accepts people whom God has said are acceptable. What makes someone acceptable to God? Is a community of grace required to accept everything and anything from someone who has been accepted by God?
2. **Read Romans 14:5-9 as a group.** A community of grace recognizes people who authentically worship Jesus. What does authentic worship look like? Talk about how a style of music that isn't your preference could still be authentically worshipful.
3. **Read Romans 14:10-12 as a group.** A community of grace points people to God's authority, not their own judgment. How can our community at Calvary Church grow in this area? In what areas can you personally become more graceful towards other Christians? End your discussion by reading together out loud the corporate prayer response from this week's sermon outline.

### Next Steps:

1. **Place your faith in Jesus today!** Read through the booklet called "The Way to Connect with God", which is available in the seat rack in front of you. You can also meet with someone from our Prayer Team at a Prayer Point during worship or after service today.
2. **Join a LifeGroup** this Fall. LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. To find out more about LifeGroups, contact Laura Copeland at 714.550.2398 or visit [calvarylife.org/lifegroups](http://calvarylife.org/lifegroups)
3. **Pursue relationship reconciliation through counseling.** To find out more about the Calvary Life Counseling Center, contact Care Ministries at 714.550.2334 or visit [calvarylife.org/counseling](http://calvarylife.org/counseling)



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