

Sermon Discussion Guide

October 5th, 2025 | Romans 14:1-12 | Pastor Greg Doty

Series // Transformed: Romans 12-16

Summary

In this passage, Pastor Greg explained that the Roman church was struggling with selfishness and division over matters of opinion. Jewish background believers avoided certain foods because of Old Testament law, while Roman background believers felt free to eat anything. Others differed over observing certain days. Paul urges believers to be transformed by the Gospel—to welcome one another, live unto the Lord, and maintain an eternal perspective.

"Welcoming" others, Pastor Greg noted, is not reluctant acceptance but genuine love, since God has welcomed us all. Whether we eat or abstain, celebrate or not, we are to be "fully convinced" that what we do is for the Lord's glory. Paul reminds us that Jesus is transforming each of us daily, so we shouldn't demand others become like us. Instead, we look to Scripture and the Gospel to discern what truly matters and trust that God is at work in everyone's life.

Discussion Questions:

Welcome Others

- What are some modern "matters of opinion" in the church today that can cause division if we're not careful?
- How can we discern the difference between issues that are essential to the gospel and those that are matters of opinion?
- Paul calls believers to "welcome" one another rather than judge. What does true, gospel-centered welcoming look like in a church community?

Live Unto the Lord

- Paul says each person should be "fully convinced in his own mind." How can we live out our convictions without becoming judgmental toward others?
- How do we ensure that the things we do—our habits, choices, and convictions—are truly done "unto the Lord"?
- Can you think of a time when you realized someone with a different conviction was still sincerely serving God? How did that change your view of them?

Live with an Eternal Perspective

- What does it mean to live with an eternal perspective in the context of church disagreements?
- How does remembering that Jesus is the one who transforms us change the way we view others' spiritual growth?
- When we face disagreements in the church, how can looking back to the Gospel help us respond with grace and humility?