

LIVING IN THE LIGHT

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A CHRISTIAN FRIEND (Romans 14:13-23)

Talk-it-Over Notes | October 3-4, 2026

REVIEW IT

The first section of Romans 14 had to do with our **attitude** toward one another with whom we disagree on disputable matters. This half of Romans 14 has to do with our **actions** toward one another. Never let a disputable matter become more important than the person. Whatever we do affects others. We are interdependent. My actions could cause another believer to stumble... be distressed... or be destroyed.

How to be a good friend to weaker believers:

1. By keeping your focus on kingdom priorities (Romans 14:16-19)
2. By limiting our liberty for the good of others (Romans 14:20-21)
3. By living by faith (Romans 14:22-23)

Spend some time in the Word: Read Romans 14:13-23 and 1 Corinthians chapter 8

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What stood out to you most in this Bible reading and sermon? Was there a particular verse, point, illustration, extra note that captured your attention?
2. In what ways can *focusing* on “disputable matters” harm relationships within the church?
3. How can we shift our focus to what truly matters for unity and growth?
4. How does limiting our own freedoms out of love for others demonstrate spiritual maturity? Can you think of a situation where you—or someone you know—chose to do this?
5. Why do you think Paul emphasizes welcoming and accepting one another, and how can we practice this kind of acceptance in our daily interactions within the church?

ACT ON IT

“My friend, you are to believe in what you are doing. If you don’t believe in it, you should not be doing it... As the believer is saved by faith, just so the believer is to walk by faith.” - J. Vernon McGee

Before making decisions about how you act or what you approve in your daily life, pause and ask yourself: “Can I do this with faith and a clear conscience before God?” As J. Vernon McGee said, “If you don’t believe in it, you should not be doing it.” This week, commit to making choices that you genuinely believe in and that reflect your trust in God—so that your actions are rooted in faith, not just habit or pressure.

PRAY ABOUT IT

Take time to ask how you can pray for and support one another in prayer. Then, close in prayer.