

**Start Presentation**

## **Romans 14:1**

**Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes  
over doubtful things.**

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**Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing  
judgment on disputable matters. [NIV]**

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**Now accept the one who is weak in faith...  
...but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his  
opinions. [NAS]**

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**AS FOR the man who is a weak believer, welcome him  
[into your fellowship], but not to criticize his opinions, or  
pass judgment on his scruples or perplex him with  
discussions. [AMP]**

## **Romans 14:1**

**Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump all over them every time they do or say something you don't agree with — even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently.**

# Convictions

# **What Is A Conviction?**

**A conviction is how I apply a general principle of the Word of God to a specific area of my life.**

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**A command is a specific instruction in the Word of God that applies the same way in every situation.**

# Conviction Examples

## **Romans 14:2-3**

**2 For instance, a person who has been around for a while might well be convinced that he can eat anything on the table, while another, with a different background, might assume all Christians should be vegetarians and eat accordingly.**

**3 But since both are guests at Christ's table, wouldn't it be terribly rude if they fell to criticizing what the other ate or didn't eat? God, after all, invited them both to the table.**



## **Romans 14:4-5**

**4 Do you have any business crossing people off the guest list or interfering with God's welcome? If there are corrections to be made or manners to be learned, God can handle that without your help.**

**5 Or, say, one person thinks that some days should be set aside as holy and another thinks that each day is pretty much like any other. There are good reasons either way. So, each person is free to follow the convictions of conscience.**

# Examples

Attending Movies

Working for Pay on Sundays (Mowing Lawn, Fishing)

Cooking with wine

Attending theater with live drama

Participation in Sports

Eating food in church building

R-Rated Movies

Drinking Alcohol

Mixed swimming

2 Piece swimsuits

Public, Private, or Home School

Playing pool or cards

Wearing pant suits to church

Wearing beards / Hair over the ears

Buying insurance

Bible translation other than the King James

Playing guitars or saxophones in church

Wearing make-up

Going to a psychiatrist

# **Doctrinal Differences**

**Healing for today?**

**Prosperity?**

**Speaking In Tongues?**

**Gifts of the Spirit for today?**

**Pre-Mid-Post Rapture?**

**Young Earth – Old Earth?**

## **James 3:13-16**

**13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.**

**14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.**

**15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.**

**16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.**

## **James 3:17-18**

**17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.**

**18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.**

# **Determine Your Own Convictions**

## Romans 14:6-9

**6** What's important in all this is that if you keep a holy day, keep it for God's sake; if you eat meat, eat it to the glory of God and thank God for prime rib; if you're a vegetarian, eat vegetables to the glory of God and thank God for broccoli.

**7** None of us are permitted to insist on our own way in these matters. It's God we are answerable to — all the way from life to death and everything in between — not each other.

**9** That's why Jesus lived and died and then lived again: so that he could be our Master across the entire range of life and death, and free us from the petty tyrannies of each other.

**Allow Others To Determine  
Their Own Convictions**



## Romans 14:10-11

**10** So where does that leave you when you criticize a brother? And where does that leave you when you condescend to a sister? I'd say it leaves you looking pretty silly — or worse. Eventually, we're all going to end up kneeling side by side in the place of judgment, facing God. Your critical and condescending ways aren't going to improve your position there one bit.

**11** Read it for yourself in Scripture:

**"As I live and breathe,"** God says, **"every knee will bow before me; Every tongue will tell the honest truth that I and only I am God."**

## Romans 14:12-16

**12 So tend to your knitting. You've got your hands full just taking care of your own life before God.**

**Forget about deciding what's right for each other. Here's what you need to be concerned about: that you don't get in the way of someone else, making life more difficult than it already is.**

**14 I'm convinced — Jesus convinced me! — that everything as it is in itself is holy. We, of course, by the way we treat it or talk about it, can contaminate it.**

**15 If you confuse others by making a big issue over what they eat or don't eat, you're no longer a companion with them in love, are you? These, remember, are persons for whom Christ died...Don't you dare let a piece of God-blessed food become an occasion of soul-poisoning!**

**Exercise Your Freedoms  
With Love**

## **Romans 14:17-19**

**17 God's kingdom isn't a matter of what you put in your stomach, for goodness' sake. It's what God does with your life as he sets it right, puts it together, and completes it with joy.**

**18 Your task is to single-mindedly serve Christ. Do that and you'll kill two birds with one stone: pleasing the God above you and proving your worth to the people around you.**

**19 So let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words;**

## Romans 14:20-21

**20 Don't drag them down by finding fault. You're certainly not going to permit an argument over what is served or not served at supper to wreck God's work among you, are you? I said it before and I'll say it again: All food is good, but it can turn bad if you use it badly, if you use it to trip others up and send them sprawling.**

**21 When you sit down to a meal, your primary concern should not be to feed your own face but to share the life of Jesus. So be sensitive and courteous to the others who are eating. Don't eat or say or do things that might interfere with the free exchange of love.**

## **Romans 14:22-23**

**22 Cultivate your own relationship with God, but don't impose it on others. You're fortunate if your behavior and your belief are coherent.**

**23 But if you're not sure, if you notice that you are acting in ways inconsistent with what you believe — some days trying to impose your opinions on others, other days just trying to please them — then you know that you're out of line. If the way you live isn't consistent with what you believe, then it's wrong.**

# Convictions

- **Determine Your Own Convictions**
- **Allow Others To Determine Their Own Convictions**
- **Exercise Your Freedoms With Love**

**End Presentation**