

WHEN IN ROMANS - PT. 2

Week 10 - Discussion Questions

SERMON SUMMARY

In this week's message, we saw that the Christian life is not ultimately about what we're allowed to do, but about who we're becoming because of what Christ has done. Paul shows that there really are "grey areas" where sincere believers land in different places, but those grey areas are not meant to make us defensive. They're meant to make us more like Jesus. Christian freedom is real, but it's always meant to be shaped by love, humility, and a Cross-shaped posture that puts the good of our brothers and sisters ahead of our personal preferences.

ICEBREAKER

- In the "grey areas" of life, we all have preferences. What's one **lighthearted** personal preference you have that not everyone shares? (Example: "I cannot eat pizza without ranch," or "Christmas music should never start before December 1.")

UNDERSTANDING STUMBLING BLOCKS. READ ROMANS 14:13-19

- Paul says in verse 13, "decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother." In your own words, what is the difference between genuinely causing someone to stumble and someone simply being offended or annoyed?
- What's the difference between truly loving someone in their weakness and trying to control them with your preferences?

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UNDERSTANDING SIN. READ ROMANS 14:23

- How does this verse challenge our cultural idea that sin is only about “breaking rules”?
- What does it look like to examine not just what you’re doing, but why you’re doing it?

DIGGING DEEPER.

THE WAY OF HUMILITY

Romans 14 ultimately drives us not toward defending our preferences, but toward becoming like Jesus. The deeper you go into this passage, the more it exposes how much pride, self-protection, and preference-shaping still exists in our hearts.

- **Read Philippians 2:3–8.** Where do you most resist “counting others more significant than yourself”?
- **Read 1 Peter 5:5–7.** What would it look like if our first instinct in a disagreement was humility rather than defensiveness?