How do we resolve disagreements on disputable matters with other believers?

MUSIC: PAUL BOLIN & BROOKE THIELEN

1. We treat those we disagree with in light of their relationship with God. (1-4)

MESSAGE: DAVID SUNDMAN

- a. We offer them loving companionship, not frivolous debate (1).
 - **Rom. 14:1** As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.
- b. We avoid negative attitudes by viewing them as God does (2-3).
 - <u>Rom. 14:2</u> One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. **3** Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.

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- c. We trust in God's ability to strengthen them (4).
 - **Rom. 14:4** Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.
- 2. We develop personal convictions based on Christ's Lordship (5-9).
 - a. We weigh these issues and come to committed conclusions (5).
 - **Rom. 14:5** One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.
 - b. Our desire to esteem Christ forms our convictions (6).
 - <u>Rom. 14:6</u> The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.
 - c. We acknowledge our mutual subjection to Christ's Lordship (7-9).
 - **Rom. 14:7** For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. **8** For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. **9** For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

3. We mind our attitudes because we will explain them to Jesus (10-12).

Rom. 14:10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; **11** for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. What kinds of people are difficult for you to lovingly welcome into the family of God?
- 2. How has God welcomed you into his presence?
- 3. How does your desire to honor God dictate how you treat those whom you disagree with?
- 4. What difference does it make for you that Jesus will be smiling when you meet him?

<u>SONGS</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
"The Lion and the Lamh" - Brenton Brown Brian Johnson Leeland	

"The Lion and the Lamb" - Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, Leeland Mooring

"King of Heaven/ Oh Our Lord" - Paul Baloche, Jason Ingram

"Who You Say I Am" - Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan

"Jesus We Love You" - Hannah McClure, Kalley Heiligenthal, Paul McClure

GIVING LAST WEEK: WEEKLY NEED:

\$21,914.00 \$34,979.00

YTD GIVING: YTD GENERAL NEED:

\$861,532.00 \$874,475.00