

# SERMON DISCUSSION STARTERS

☀ Paul dealt with two issues of difference in the church at Rome. He addressed “diets” and “days.” What group in the church was most likely the “weak” mentioned in (Rom. 14:1) who abstained from meat and observed special days \_\_\_\_\_? What group in the church was most likely the “strong” mentioned in (Rom. 15:1) who ate meat and viewed all days alike \_\_\_\_\_? Which group was Paul a part of according to (Rom. 15:1) which group was Paul a part of \_\_\_\_\_? What group would a long-time Gentile proselyte be a part of \_\_\_\_\_?

☀ So there were differences in the church at Rome. But were these differences matters of moral absolutes, doctrinal certainties, or gospel essence? YES / NO We refer to these faith-filled, reasoned conclusions apart from license or legalism as differences over “non-\_\_\_\_\_” **What do you think are some of the issues of difference over non-essentials in our day?**

☀ According to (Rom. 14:1), how should we treat fellow believers who are different regarding non-essentials \_\_\_\_\_? According to (Rom. 14:3) what is the temptation of the strong toward the weak \_\_\_\_\_? What is the temptation of the weak toward the strong \_\_\_\_\_? **What are some specific ways that you struggle on both sides of the fence?**

☀ Think about the great difference between you and God. What greater polarity exists? We are diametrically different, and yet according to (Rom. 14:3) “God has \_\_\_\_\_ “ us. God spans the chasm of difference between us and him, and calls on us (through the power of the Spirit) to span the difference between ourselves and other believers. We need to accept one another because God accepts us. **Who do you need to accept? Will you commit to praying about it and asking God to help you?**

May the Lord apply his grace to your life as you seek to live right in light of the time, Pastor Lukus

