Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Romans
Message: Christian Flexibility

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Memory Verse: Romans 6:23 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Be flexible and sensitive to each other, not a rigid stumbling block.

Read Romans 14:13-23

1. Believers are called to stop passing judgment on one another and to avoid placing stumbling blocks in each other's path (v 13). How do subtle actions or words sometimes become stumbling blocks in the lives of fellow believers? What practical steps could you take this week to remove stumbling blocks rather than reinforce your own preferences?

2. If a believer has a conviction that something is not acceptable, then to them it is not acceptable (v 14). Our conscience is a gift from God, but it is also being shaped by our upbringing and our walk with Him. Have you ever felt a strong "check" in your spirit about something that other Christians seemed perfectly fine with? When a believer's convictions are different than yours, do you try and convert them to your way of thinking? How do you distinguish between a clear biblical command and a personal conviction?



3. Using personal freedom in a way that harms another believer is not consistent with love (v 15). What are some common ways believers unintentionally hurt those with more tender consciences? How do we balance our freedom in Christ with the responsibility to walk in love? Can you think of a concrete situation where love might invite you to limit your liberty for someone else's good?

4. The kingdom of God is centered on righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (v 17). How often do you try to achieve any of these through your own willpower versus relying on the Spirit's power? Of these three, which comes most naturally to you? Which is the hardest?

5. When we live in this manner (v 17) we will win the respect and commendation of others (v 18). How does this challenge the idea that cultural influence comes primarily through power, volume, or visibility? As we seek to reach and impact more people with the gospel by 2030, how important is our church's collective reputation in the community?

6. Believers are encouraged to actively seek what promotes harmony and mutual growth (v 19). Share about a relationship where you would like to see greater harmony. What have you learned from Romans so far that you can use to take a first step in transforming the relationship?

7. Doing things you believe are not right is considered a sin (v 23). Is there a gap between your "aspirational values," the things you say you believe, and your "actual values," the things you actually do when no one is looking or when you're under pressure? How can we practice "proactive honesty" where, instead of pretending we have it all together, we share our struggles with our convictions in a way that *strengthens* our witness?

