Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Romans
Message: Unity in Areas of Liberty

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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: Seek uniformity on primary doctrine and unity on secondary issues.

Read Romans 14:1-12

1. Believers are called to welcome the one who is weak in faith without quarreling over opinions (Romans 14:1). When someone enters your life with convictions that differ from yours, is your first instinct to "fix" them or to "welcome" them? How do we distinguish between essential doctrines and opinions? Where are you most tempted to turn personal preferences into spiritual standards?

2. Those who feel free in certain areas and those who hold stricter convictions can easily misunderstand one another (v 2-3). What assumptions do we tend to make about people whose convictions differ from ours? In your own walk, are you more likely to question someone's freedom or quietly judge someone's caution? Why do you think that is? In Rome, this conflict happened over a literal meal. In your life, what is the "table" where you find it

hardest to sit with people who have different convictions?

3. Each believer stands or falls before their own Master, who is the Lord (v 4). How does remembering that Christ is the true Judge change the way you evaluate other believers? In what situations do you feel tempted to “play the Holy Spirit” in someone else’s life? What would it look like to entrust that person more fully to the Lord?

4. Every believer should be fully convinced in their own mind and act unto the Lord (v 5). What is the difference between a biblically-formed conviction and a personal preference? How do we cultivate convictions shaped by Scripture rather than culture or tradition? Is there an area where you follow a practice out of habit rather than deep, scriptural conviction?

5. All of ourselves, whether in life or death belongs to the Lord (v 8). If someone were to observe your "typical Tuesday," what evidence would they see that you are living *to the Lord* rather than to your own comfort, your career, or your reputation? What are some ways we can make our faith a more evident part of our daily lives?

6. Paul redirects our focus away from judging others and back to our own hearts (v 10). What usually fuels judgment in your life? Why do you think it can feel easier to evaluate someone else’s walk than to examine your own? How should remembering the grace God has shown you change the way you see someone you’re tempted to judge?

7. One day, every person will ultimately bow before the Lord and confess Him (v 11). When you picture that day, what do you imagine it will be like? Does this future reality impact any of your present decisions or behaviors?

