

Big Idea: God's glory is more important than our difference.

1. DIFFERENCES EXIST IN THE BODAY OF CHRIST

Consider our differences:

Different is just different unless God says different is wrong.

One of the issues that surfaced in the church of Rome was their views on holy days and what to eat. Jewish Christians expected Gentile Christians to obey their dietary laws and holy days. Differences occur in the Body of Christ.

2. ATTITUDE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN AGREEMENT IN THE BODY OF CHRIST.

"We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good to build him up"

The words bear with communicates help with an attitude of love.

OUR GOAL IS NOT AGREEMENT WITH ONE ANOTHER BUT AGREEMENT WITH CHRIST ABOUT _____.

Paul therefore references the example of Jesus. *"³For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." ⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

Jesus is the ultimate example of living to please others. **Mark 10:45** *"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

GOD HAS PROVIDED ALL THAT WE NEED TO _____ WHO GOD SAYS WE ARE AND _____ WHAT GOD SAYS WE CAN DO.

3. GOD IS THE GRANTOR OF HARMONY.

"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

What is Harmony?

IF MY MIND ABOUT YOU IS NOT IN _____ WITH JESUS' MIND ABOUT YOU THEN I HAVE THE MIND.

4. GOD'S GLORY IS THE GOAL OF HARMONY.

"so that" is a purpose clause.
What is the purpose of all this?

Glory is the word doxa from Old Testament word kabod. It means to positively acknowledge, recognize, or esteem one's character, nature and attributes. It is to

acknowledge God in all of His splendor.

The word "*together*" means one mind or one accord or mutual agreement.

One Voice: As though we had one mouth.

5. THE MARK OF UNITY IS NOT AGREEMENT BUT ACCEPTANCE DESPITE DIFFERENCES.

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Paul explains the _____ before he explains the _____.

Why?

What

THE ONLY WAY TO _____ ACCEPT OTHERS IS TO HABITUALLY SURRENDER TO THE _____.