

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How do you react to a person whose views differ from yours?
2. How far do you go in agreeing with your brother?
3. How does scripture allow for differences of opinion?
4. When there is a conflict between brethren, whose responsibility is it to resolve it?

SUMMARY:

It seems that the hardest thing we have to learn is that of respecting the other person's point of view. God looks at each one of us as the individual He created and knows our thoughts and motives. We look at each other through our own eyes and judge according to our standards. The Bible teaches us that this should not be, but rather we should be kind and considerate and be concerned about how the things we do will affect others.

In order to have the blessing of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (vs. 17), all bickering over non-essential things must be stopped and instead pursue those things which edify one another.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

September 21, 2025

Third Quarter

CONSIDERATION

LESSON TEXT: Romans 14:1-23; 15:1-7

LESSON SETTING: Written to the Romans from Corinth.

TIME: Approximately 60 A.D.

- I. CHRISTIAN DIFFERENCES.** Romans 14:1-6
 - A. Avoid Controversies Concerning Doubtful Practices (vs. 1-6)
1 Corinthians 8:1-9
- II. CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS.** Romans 14:7-16
 - A. Fellowship (vs. 9) 1 John 1:7
 - B. Demonstrate Love (vs. 15) 1 Corinthians 10:23-31
- III. CHRISTIAN ACTION.** Romans 14:17-23
 - A. Seeking Righteousness, Peace, Joy (vs. 17)
 - B. Edifying One Another (vs. 19)
 - C. Letting Faith Direct our Actions (vs. 22)
 - D. Avoid Causing Offense (vs. 21)
- IV. CHRIST'S EXAMPLE.** Romans 15:1-7
 - A. Uplifted the Weak (vs. 1, 7)
 - B. Like-Minded One Toward Another (vs. 5-6)

GOLDEN TEXT: LET US THEREFORE FOLLOW AFTER THE THINGS WHICH MAKE FOR PEACE, AND THINGS WHEREWITH ONE MAY EDIFY ANOTHER.
Romans 14:19

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 John 4:7-21

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 1 Samuel 20:1-17;
2 Samuel 1:17-27;
John 13:31-35; Romans 13:8-10;
1 Corinthians 13:1-13

QUARTERLY THEME: Marks of a Christian

TOPIC: LOVE

INTRODUCTION:

Love is the foundation upon which true Christianity is built. Christ died for us because He loved us. For this our hearts are filled with love for Him. But the action or result of this love is seen by our love toward mankind. We cannot love God without loving others.

We may possess a natural love toward those that love us, but to love those that hate or persecute us requires a divine love. We read of this divine love in 1 Corinthians 13. We are told that such love suffers long, is kind, is not jealous, proud or boastful, does not seek for itself, is not provoked, thinks no evil, bears all things, etc.

How is a person able to love in this divine fashion? Only God can supply that kind of love within our hearts. We love others and Him, if we permit Him to supply the love.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Appreciation for what God's love has done for us will cause us to love God and others.

GOLDEN TEXT: HEREIN IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD, BUT THAT HE LOVED US, AND SENT HIS SON TO BE THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS.
1 John 4:10

In our meditations on the marks of a Christian, we began with faith and now come to the greatest fruit of the Spirit, which is love. As our Christian walk begins with faith, we realize the love that God has for us—to give His only Son that we need not perish! When we can believe that the gift of salvation is for us, our hearts are filled with love for one another and for God who loved us first. But, how often we lose much of that “first love”. How hard it is then to attain the other marks of a Christian, for all that we strive to do or become in Christ must be made “perfect in love”. Good works alone are not enough, if Christ must say to us, “nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou has left thy first love”. (Revelation 2:4)

May our love for others be so exercised that our love for God might be strengthened.

O Lord, wherever love is waning,
There do Thy work in time to save!
There let Thy grace, with power sustaining,
Flood new the love that all forgave!
For where the flame of love has died,
The light of faith will not abide.

Z.H. 76:1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sept. 22 – 28

Mon. Jonathan's Love for David. 1 Samuel 20:1-17
Tue. David's Love for Jonathan. 2 Samuel 1:17-27
Wed. Love in Action. Matthew 25:31-40
Thu. Christ's New Commandment. John 13:21-35
Fri. Jesus' Love for Us. John 15:9-17
Sat. *Love's Ideal. 1 John 4:7-16
Sun. *Love Perfected. 1 John 4:17-21

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