

## CORE VALUE Bible-Centered, Generously Orthodox

### Romans 14:10 You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt?

## Romans 14:1 ...quarreling over disputable matters

# 1st ORDER MATTERS Essential for salvation

## 2nd ORDER MATTERS Important to the faith and the church, not essential for salvation

## 3rd ORDER MATTERS Preferences, personal convictions, biblically unclear theological issues or minor issues

## Romans 14:5 One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike.

## Romans 14:2 One person's faith allows them to eat anything but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

### Romans 14:14 I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself.

## 3rd ORDER MATTERS Preferences, personal convictions, biblically unclear theological issues or minor issues

## "All Christians ought to..."

## Romans 14:1 Accept the one whose faith is weak

#### Romans 15:7

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

## ACCEPT To we come others into your heart and home.

## 4 Practices of WELCOMING CHURCHES

## PRACTICE #1 Welcoming Churches make room for personal conscience.

## Romans 14:5 ... Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.

"Our conscience is a part of our God-given internal faculties, a critical inner awareness that bears witness to the norms and values we recognize when determining right or wrong." -Joe Carter

#### Romans 14:14 I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean.

#### **Romans 14:23**

But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

## In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity. -St. Augustine

## PRACTICE #2 Welcoming Churches embrace the free and the sensitive.

#### Romans 14:13

Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.

#### Romans 15:1

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves.

## PRACTICE #2 Welcoming Churches embrace the free and the sensitive.

## PRACTICE #3 Welcoming Churches lovingly challenge the conscience.

#### **Romans 14:10**

You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.

## PRACTICE #4 Welcoming Churches prioritize love over freedom.

### **Romans 14:19** Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

#### **Romans 14:20**

Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.

#### **Romans 14:21**

It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall.



#### Romans 15:5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had,

#### Romans 15:6 so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

## Romans 15:7

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to

