

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **April 3, 2022** Family Theme | **Surrendering Our Rights**
Study Text | **Romans 14:1 – 15:7**

Objective: Family members choose to live in harmony with each other and other believers, accepting one another and putting others ahead of ourselves.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: In this section of his letter to the believers in Rome, written around AD 57, Paul dealt with how we should treat each other when we disagree over non-essentials.

Bible Basics: Review the names and order of the first 17 books of the New Testament this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: Romans 14:1 – 15:7

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children or grandchildren about how we can choose to accept one another despite differences of opinion and put others' interests ahead of our own.



Key Truth: Believers Leave Judgment to God in Matters Not Clearly Spelled Out in Scripture (Romans 14:1-12)

In this passage Paul dealt with disputes between believers that did not center around major beliefs or doctrine related to salvation, but rather around people's convictions concerning certain debatable matters. Those Paul deemed weak were those who were not firmly established in the faith. They did not feel the freedom to eat certain foods and felt that they should observe certain special days. Others believed they could eat anything and did not need to observe special days. Instead of arguing with one another, Paul instructed them to accept each other without passing judgment.



Key Truth: Believers Consider Others' Spiritual Well-Being as More Important Than Their Own Rights (Romans 14:13-23)

Paul challenged his readers to make every effort to build up one another spiritually, being careful not to cause others to stumble in their walk with God. He encouraged them to remember that the practices one feels free to enjoy are not the main issue, but rather we should live in a way that does not cause spiritual damage to a fellow believer. The moment believers stop giving thought to others and their personal convictions, they stop acting in love. In the spirit of love, we are to promote one another's spiritual good and not just our own desires or agenda. Even when we feel the freedom to make certain choices, we should watch out for the welfare of our fellow believers who do not enjoy that freedom.



Key Truth: Believers Follow Christ's Example by Placing Others' Interests Ahead of Their Own (Romans 15:1-7)

It is the obligation of the strong in faith to bear with those who are "weak," or not as firmly established in their faith. The strong are not to act only out of selfish pleasure or personal tastes. The established believer's aim should be to help in the building up of others, the opposite of putting a stumbling block in their way. Paul urged believers to please others, following Christ's example of putting the needs of others ahead of His own. He encouraged both parties to accept one another in unity.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- How can we welcome or accept someone we do not agree with in a debatable matter?
- Why is others' spiritual welfare more important than our own "rights" or "freedoms"?
- **How are we to handle situations in which we have differing opinions over things not clearly spelled out in Scripture?**
- **How can our behavior cause someone else to stumble in his or her faith?**
- **What are some examples of how we can please others rather than ourselves?**
- **How will you put someone else's needs or desires above your own this week?**

Everyday Extras

Sometimes we say no to ourselves in order to help other people. We can give our time, our money, and our hard work, whether someone else deserves it or not, whether it is fair or not. Decide on a service project for your family to participate in. This can be for fellow believers within your church or as an outreach for unbelievers. Some possible ideas could be to donate old toys, gather blankets and water bottles for the homeless, babysit for a neighbor, or cook a meal for an elderly person at your church. We learn from Jesus that giving is better than receiving; we learn from Jesus that we lead by serving.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned some people were unhappy that Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house. They didn't know why Jesus would spend time with Zacchaeus. But Jesus wanted Zacchaeus to believe in Him and change his ways. After spending time with Jesus, Zacchaeus did just that. He chose to believe in Jesus. **I Can Believe in Jesus** like Zacchaeus did.