

SDQ20120129_29JAN12

Sedaqah Groups

January 29, 2012

Holy Harmony: "Learning to Eat Together - Part 2"

Romans 14:13-23

REVIEW

1. How can Christians determine when an issue is a "disputable matter"?

BACKGROUND

Dietary practice. Eating meat sacrificed to idols. Drinking wine. The Roman Christians struggled with all of these issues. Their struggle brought to light how we ought to behave with people who may believe differently than us or may not be aware of all of the freedoms we have in Christ.

WARMUP

1. Where has God said that His Old Testament laws regarding the Sabbath and diet are no longer in effect?
2. What is the difference between refraining from an activity and superstition?

REFLECTION

1. What are some "stumbling blocks" that Christians can put in each other's way?
2. In verse 14, what does "persuaded in the Lord" mean? How does one obtain that type of persuasion?
3. Does verse 14 also mean that each person can now determine what he or she wants to follow?
4. How can we possibly destroy someone by what we eat (v.15)? If fellow Christians are "distressed" by what you eat, isn't that their problem?
5. Does verse 23 mean that if I am firmly convinced that open marriage is OK, I will not be guilty of adultery?
6. What is the difference between being a "weaker" Christian and just believing differently? (For example your Christian friend has been a strong proponent of being vegetarian for 10 years and feels its wrong for Christians to eat meat.)

APPLICATION

1. How can "stronger" Christians help "weaker" Christians to become strong?
2. What is Paul's point in verse 17? How can you apply that teaching in your Christian walk?
3. Describe some activities that you currently refrain from doing because you are a Christian. (Of course excluding illegal stuff.) Why do you refrain?