

**Series:** The Gospel

**Sermon:** Result of the Renewed Mind in Corporate Life

**Bible Passage:** Romans 15:5-6

### **1. The issues in Romans churches (few):**

- (a) Weak & strong people (14:1; 15:1)
- (b) Quarrel over food (non-kosher & kosher) (14:2-4)
- (c) Quarrel over special days (14:5-6)
- (d) The “so called” strong ones caused the “so called” weak ones to stumble (14:13)
- (e) They treated each other with contempt (14:10)—show by one’s attitude or manner of treatment that an entity has no merit or worth, disdain
- (f) One’s freedom was almost destroying another one’s faith (14:15)
- (g) God’s work among the Roman believers were being destroyed by conflict over superficial matters (14:20)
- (h) Some of them were self-pleasers (15:1)

### **2. Basis of Paul’s teaching**

- (a) God has accepted them [Jews and non-Jews] (14:3)
- (b) All are God’s servants [a new identity] (14:4)—domestic slave
- (c) All live for God (14:7) If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord
- (d) All will stand before God for judgment (14:10)
- (e) The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (14:17)
- (f) Christ has become the intermediary (15:8) someone who stands between

### **3. Paul’s proposed solution to these issues**

- (a) Look at the mind of Christ (15:5) [Paul prays that He would grant them such the mind of Jesus]
- (a1) Christ did not please Himself (15:3)
- (a2) Took upon Himself the blame of others (15:3)

### **4. The result of taking the mind of Christ**

- (a) Bringing glory to God corporately [in a community that was ridden with conflict] (15:6)
- (b) Accepting one another as they are (15:7) which is the corporate unity
- (c) That will result in the fulfilment of *Abrahamic* promise (15:9-12)
  - (c1) Gentiles bringing glory to God
  - (c2) Joy, peace, and hope by the working of the Holy Spirit

### **5. Take Away**

Contribute voluntarily for the peace and mutual edification of your church members (cf. 14:9)