



Small Group Discussion Guide

April 22, 2018

Sermon Title:

“Kingdom Living in a ‘Me First’ World”

Sermon Text: Romans 14:17-19

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 10:19-25

Leader: *Please allow a moment for introductions/visiting. Have someone offer a brief prayer inviting God to speak and lead using the group’s discussion.*

Getting Started: What examples can you identify or have you experienced that speak to a “me first” culture?

Discussion:

- 1. Kingdom Life is *NOT* issue-driven** (v 17). Browse through the rest of Romans 14. What are some of the issues Paul is addressing with his comments? What are some of the issues that are divisive in the church today? In our culture? In our politics? Why do we focus so much on differences rather than commonality?
- 2. Kingdom Life *IS* focused on righteousness, peace, and joy** (v 17). Look up Matthew 6:33 and Galatians 5:22. How do these verses reinforce Paul’s thoughts from verse 17? How do we focus on righteousness, peace, and joy, when others around us seem so committed to the opposite?
- 3. Kingdom Life *RESULTS* in pleasing God and receiving the respect of others** (v 18). Look up Romans 12:1-2 and Titus 2:7-8. If we do the former really well, the latter seems to naturally follow. Why does Christianity seem to garner such negative responses? What has your personal experience been like, respect or antagonism?
- 4. Kingdom Life *PURSUES* unity and edification** (v 19). Read Paul’s words in Romans 12:9-21, specifically note verses 16 and 18. In light of the message text and these verses, there is a clear mandate for Christian conduct. Why do you feel so many pride themselves on their willingness to “standing against”? Is there a balance?

Closing: *Close by sharing prayer requests.*

Pray for each another and for the needs that were shared.

Have a blessed Holy Week. GO SHARE JESUS!