



Small Group Discussion Notes

Romans: The Letter that Changed the World

The Fruit of Unity

Romans 15:1-13

April 30, 2023

Warm Up

Share an experience when someone came alongside you in a time of weakness or crisis. How did they support you?

Digging Deeper

Read Romans 15:1-13

Reflecting back on chapter 14, what does Paul mean when he refers to some believers as stronger and others as weaker?

Why is it important for stronger believers to support weaker believers? How does this help to bring about unity?

How do you feel about the idea of this being not merely a suggestion, but an expectation?

What obstacles get in the way of helping other brothers and sisters that might need support, guidance, a shoulder to cry on, etc.?

Paul certainly doesn't mean that our needs don't matter at all, but rather that we should make it a priority to look out for others. Would you say you are intentional about looking for ways to care for, serve, support, etc. others? Why or why not?

What do you take away from Paul's encouragement in verses 5 and 6?

How does caring for others glorify God?

We are reminded in verses 8-12 of God's love for both Jew and Gentile. What stands out to you in these verses?

In verse 13, Paul reminds us of the hope, joy and peace that is offered to us. How might these gifts both serve to further unity, and also be more richly experienced in the context of a united Church?

Read Romans 11: 1-6

Next Steps

Read Matthew 20:28

What can we take away from this verse and apply to our lives as followers of Christ?

What can we personally do to be more prepared to walk alongside and support others in their lives and spiritual journeys?

Share how your small group might be able to better care for one another.

Final Thoughts

The fruit of unity is a life that glorifies God and is filled with hope, joy and peace. It is fruit that we are able to enjoy, but also lovingly share with others.