#### NEW LIFE CHURCH CRAWLEY

#### **MESSAGE**

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### **Building A Biblical** Community OF GRACE





## We can BUILD A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY OF GRACE

- by accepting others as they are (Rom 14:1-4)
- by allowing God to direct our lives (Rom 14:5-8)

# We can BUILD A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY OF GRACE by taking a non judgemental attitude Rom 14:9-13



Romans 14 verses 9 to 13 So why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer? Remember, we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For the Scriptures say,

"'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bend to me, and every tongue will declare allegiance to God."" Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God. So let's stop condemning each other.

"Reform is a discredited fantasy. A wolf could wear sheep's clothing but he is still a wolf. Men like you can never change!"



## Romans 14:9-13 We will all stand before the judgement seat of God











Romans 14:9-13
We will all stand before the judgement seat of God so:

Live your life well



Each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work.

1 Corinthians 3:10b-15

Romans 14:9-13
We will all stand before the judgement seat of God so:

- Live your life well
- Don't judge others

So why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer? Romans 14:10

We are being judgemental when:

1. We only look on the outside and not the heart



#### We are being judgemental when:

- 1. We only look on the outside and not the heart
- 2. We look at what a person has been and not what they could become



#### We are being judgemental when:

- 1. We only look on the outside and not the heart
- 2. We look at what a person has been and not what they could become
- 3. We care more about rules than grace

How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. Matthew 7:5

We can BUILD A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY OF GRACE by expressing liberty wisely Rom 14:14-23



Mother Teresa said "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other"

### Message paraphrase version of Rom 14:14-23

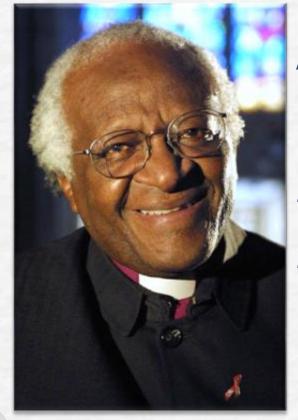
18-19 Your task is to single-mindedly serve Christ. Do that and you'll kill two birds with one stone: pleasing the God above you and proving your worth to the people around you. So let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words;

#### **Key Points:**

- 1. Freedom is real but NOT be exercised at the expense of others' spiritual health or conscience.
- 2. The kingdom of God prioritizes *righteousness*, *peace*, and *joy*, rather than external rules or personal liberties.
- 3. Actions should be motivated by faith, love, and a commitment to promoting unity and spiritual growth in the body of Christ.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

As an intercultural, intergenerational church respecting cultural differences and seeking harmony helps us reflect God's Kingdom which is greater than human boundaries of associations.



#### **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

"my humanity is bound up in yours for we can only be human together"

## What are the practical results of BUILDING A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY OF GRACE?

Romans 15:5-6

- 1. encouragement
- 2. unity
- 3. glory to God







