

2. Read Ro 13:1-7 and evaluate these statements:

“Democracy is the only real God-pleasing form of government.”

“Communism is a sin.”

“We don't have to obey bad laws.”

“The government should use God's laws in the Bible when it makes laws.”

“Prayer in public schools is a good idea.”

3. Define "adiaphoron." Review Romans 14 and 15. How do we best use our Christian liberty in matters which are adiaphora?

⇒ if doing "the thing" affects only ourselves?

⇒ if doing "the thing" is called a sin by someone else?

⇒ if doing "the thing" causes someone to stumble in faith?

| Adiaphora | Not Adiaphora |
|-----------|---------------|
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4. Discuss church fellowship on the basis of Romans 16:1-19.

Romans 12-16

The Christian's relationship

| | |
|---|-------------|
| ...with fellow Christians | 12:1-16 |
| ...with the world | 12:17—13:14 |
| ...with weak Christians | 14:1—15:13 |
| ...with Christians in/out of fellowship | 16 |

Key passages in Romans 9-16

Romans 10:17, Romans 16:17

5. Discuss a few areas of congregational life on the basis of these statements & 1 Co 1-9.

“ It is not okay for pastor’s to play favorites with members, but members are free to play favorites with church leaders.” (1 Co 1)

“ Evangelism can be done best when you have a pastor who is good at speaking and has people skills.” (1 Co 1-2)

“ It is okay to have different teachings between Christians. All that really matters is that you believe in Jesus. “ (1 Co 3)

“ Excommunication is a fancy word for dropping someone from membership.” (1 Co 5)

“ A person who is excommunicated will go to hell. “ (1 Co 5)

“ A Christian should not take another Christian to court.” (1 Co 6)

“ What I do with my own body is my own business.” (1 Co 6-7)

“ The pastor needs to be more like a CEO and more forceful with his position.” [or the opposite view] “Why do we pay the pastor a full time salary to just do ministry work?” (1 Co 9)

6. What’s the pertinent point for us today when we read about this “meat sacrificed to idols” stuff? (1 Co 8)

7. Your Methodist friend takes you up on your invitation and comes to church with you. It’s communion Sunday. He is hurt because he wasn’t allowed to participate in the Lord’s Supper. What will you say to demonstrate that your practice of close communion is done out of love? (see 1 Co 10:16-17; 11:27-30)

8. Read 1 Co 12:7-10, 28-31; Ro 12:3-8. Make a list of the gifts of the Spirit.



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Week 7 Oct 27 Ro 9—1 Co 16



CHALLENGE

We'll begin with time for sharing questions and comments on the reading section.

1. What is the reason why some people are saved and others are not? List some wrong conclusions. Then read Ro 9:22-29 and 11:17-24, 32 to better understand the teaching of election.