

Sermon Notes

Power of the Word Part 8C

April 1st – 2nd, 2023

- **So Far:** Unity of the Body of Christ, working through Romans 14:1-15:7
 - Unhealthy reaction to differences: Contempt and judgement.
- **Week 8C: Putting Up With Others – The Healthy Reaction to the Reality of It.**
 - Let's read the whole thing again. This is powerful stuff. **Romans 14:1-15:7**
- So, how do we properly handle our differences?? Edify!!
 - Sure, they are messed up...just like you.
 - Step one: Don't get in the way!! **Romans 14:13**
 - That can be easy to do. Especially for authority figures like parents, pastors, etc.
 - When you jump in and try to fix them, it usually creates more problems.
 - Simply assume that God is working on them. Don't be a distraction from that.
 - Step two: build them up! **Romans 14:19, 15:2**
 - We are all going to have to face the Lord and give an account. **Romans 14:10-12**
 - Judging and looking down on others doesn't help. Instead build them up!
 - If you are worried that the truth won't come out, just relax...
 - We need to help each other so the day of judgment goes better for us all!!
 - **Romans 14:19** is a beautiful picture, especially with **Romans 14:5** in mind!
 - Each one fully convinced with unresolved issues!!! Wow!! I want to live there!!
 - We have that in our Pastor's Wednesday Group. It's kind of wonderful.
 - As you mature, you will get better at this.
 - More secure, not threatened, able to see what really matters. **Romans 14:17-18**
 - That makes you more able to do **Romans 14:19**...which is **Rom 14:1 and 15:1**.
 - Key milestone in your faith walk: when you move from a receiver to a giver. **Matt 10:7-8**.
 - Every believer hits a point where church doesn't do it for them anymore.
 - This is the moment you go from a receiver to a giver...or it gets yucky...
 - Not pleasing yourself by pointing out others' faults.
 - Not being all needy and fragile.
 - Adults feed themselves. You know where the well is. Go get a drink and then come to church to bless somebody! Come and serve!
- What if we fail to edify others?? **Romans 14:14-15, Romans 14:20-21**
 - We can actually damage people and damage the cause of Christ. (I didn't write this.)
 - It is possible to destroy. **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**
 - What you do actually matters! **1 Corinthians 15:58**
 - So, don't be judgie or contemptuous. Keep it to yourself!! **Romans 14:22**
 - This verse shows that you can miss the other way too. You can be too free, approve of too much.
 - **1 Corinthians 9:19-23** Paul is quite free, but not free to hate, not free for immorality, etc.
 - Free from arbitrary religious rules, but not free from the ways of God.
 - True for churches/organizations too. If we put up with too much that leaves room for bad things to happen. That's not ok. We vet and we protect!!
 - There is no reason for us to fail. **2 Peter 1:3**
 - Let's have our Holy Communion Scripture be **Ephesians 4:11-16**
 - What a beautiful picture. Let's try to catch it, edify others, and stand together with all believers to bring praise to God!!
- Get personal prayer by emailing prayer@goodhope.ag.