



**The Rest Don't Matter
August 22-23, 2020**

Philippians 1:9-10 (NLT)

I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return.

I'm caught up in things that don't matter when I:

- Try to live by a list of rules.

Romans 14:6 (NLT)

Those who worship the Lord on a special day do it to honor him. Those who eat any kind of food do so to honor the Lord, since they give thanks to God before eating. And those who refuse to eat certain foods also want to please the Lord and give thanks to God.

- Feel contempt for people who disagree with me.

Romans 14:3 (NET)

The one who eats everything must not despise the one who does not, and the one who abstains must not judge the one who eats everything, for God has accepted him.

- Judge other people's convictions.

Romans 14:4 (NET)

Who are you to pass judgment on another's servant? Before his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Other people don't answer to me; they answer to God.

I focus on the things that actually matter when I:

1 Wrestle through my own convictions.

Romans 14:14, 22-23 (NIV)

I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean. ... So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves. But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

2 Love the people I disagree with.

Romans 14:20a (NIV)

Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food.

I can't do this if I don't know anyone I disagree with.

Someone I disagree with:

I can't love without listening.

Why they think the way they do:

3 Celebrate harmony, not uniformity.

Romans 15:5-6 (NLT)

May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise and glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4 Always hold on to hope.

Romans 15:4 (NIV)

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.



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- Feel _____ for people who disagree with me.

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