

ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

Romans 15:7

**Church should be more than a shared location and experience,
it should be a shared fellowship and relationship.**

I. ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER - Romans 15:5-7

A. PAUL'S PRESCRIPTION (7)

1. The Contrast: "She Took My Seat!"
2. The Command: A pres. mid. impv.
 - a. A personal interest and involvement with others
 - b. To take as one's companion
 - c. Interaction: With those around you share ...
 - Your name, birthplace, occupation, number of children and how long you've attended here
3. The Example: Just as Christ also accepted us
 - a. He accepted us graciously - Matt. 9:10-13
 - b. He accepted us joyously - Luke 15:3-7
 - c. He accepted us impartially - John 6:37
4. The Purpose: To the glory of God
 - God's reputation is enhanced when His people warmly welcome each other

B. PAUL'S PRAYER (5-6)

1. For their selfless Christ-like attitude (5)
2. For their unified, God-glorifying voice (6)
 - Interaction: Share a recent blessing with those around you

II. ADDITIONAL COMMANDS

A. CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER - I Corinthians 12:24b-26

- In the church body

B. SERVE ONE ANOTHER - Galatians 5:13

- While avoiding selfish sin

C. SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER - Ephesians 5:21

- In the fear of the Lord

Over please >

III. PERSONAL APPLICATIONS

A. QUESTIONS: Can we accept those around us like ...

1. The socially awkward? > Jesus dealt with a demoniac! (Mark 5:1-10)
2. The economically challenged? > Peter and John healed a beggar (Acts 3:1-8)
3. The racially different? > Philip proclaimed Christ to an Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-38)
4. The biblically immature? > Priscilla and Aquila instructed Apollos (Acts 18:24-26)
5. The politically liberal? > Paul won some of Herod's household to the Lord (Philippians 4:22)

B. CONSIDERATION: In order to encourage and enhance relationships, I can ...

1. Follow up on some of the things I learned about the people around me today
2. Avoid hurrying out of the service and our building
3. Sit, stand or park in a different spot (see who comes around)
4. Look for someone sitting or standing alone
5. Participate in church programs
6. Serve on a committee

C. COMMITMENT

- Sometime this week read the book of Philemon and write down your observations about accepting one another.

CONCLUSION:

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, ²⁵ to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *be* glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

- Jude 24-25

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