



WHY CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?

APRIL 16-27 — DISCOVERTHEWORD.ORG

The followers of Christ in first-century Rome were a mixed band of Jews and Gentiles, who had little experience worshiping and living in one body, much less representing the gospel to others in their city. Believers in our modern-day churches may or may not represent that type of diversity, but we still need to band together with Christ as our focus. If we can get along in our church families, that speaks volumes to nonbelievers outside the church who may be watching.



THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Paul writes about being “transformed by the renewing of [our minds]” in Romans 12:1–2. What is a practical way you “renew your mind” every day?
- As followers of Christ, we are called to be loving to those inside and outside of our faith communities. Paul gave the Roman believers some guidelines in Romans 12:9–21. Select one of the ways listed in these verses to be more loving and begin to practice it daily.
- In Romans 13:1–14, Paul suggests two more life guidelines: be submissive and be wise. In what ways would these guidelines help you in your relationships with those who know Jesus and with those who don't?
- Paul advises the Roman Christians to be both accepting and nonjudgmental in Romans 14:1–21. Why was that so important when Paul wrote it? And why is that guidance still important in today's culture?
- In Romans 14:22–23, Paul offers surprising advice: be quiet. What did that mean for the believers in Rome? How might God be asking you to “be quiet” in relationships around you?



CHALLENGE

Look back at your most difficult relationships—with family, with church members, with co-workers, with people groups different from you—and consider which principle God might be asking you to implement. Can you be more loving, submissive, wise, accepting, nonjudgmental, quiet, or grace-filled?



COMMIT TO MEMORY

Do not conform to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind”
(Romans 12:2 NIV).



PRAYER

Dear God, please help me see those You have placed in my life, both inside and outside of the church, and how You are nudging me to change the way I relate to them as a follower of Christ. In Jesus's name, Amen.