

## Week 5 - Oct 19 - Missions Break:

### Together for Our City: “Welcome One Another” (Romans 14–15)

#### Welcome & Opening Prayer

Pray for the Spirit’s help to:

- Receive one another as Christ has received us (Rom 15:7).
- Grow in harmony so that “with one voice” we glorify God (Rom 15:5–6).
- Live out John 17:21—our unity as a witness to a divided world.

#### Sermon Debrief: Open Share

- What image, line, or story stuck with you (e.g., London’s diversity; Parliament chapel; “unity in diversity like an orchestra”)—and why?
- Where did the Lord nudge or encourage you personally?

**Read the Text Aloud:** Romans 14:1–9, 10–13; 15:1–7 (one or two readers)

#### A. Unity in a Divided Church

**Key Idea:** A divided world needs a united church. Our unity is both our witness and our worship.

- How does Paul call both sides—the “weak” and the “strong”—to relate to one another (see vv. 3–4, 10–13)?
- Where do you tend to lean—more cautious or more free—and how might you show grace toward those who differ from you?
- Where do you notice fragmentation among believers in our city or even within the church? How could visible, relational unity make Jesus more believable to those watching?

#### B. The Gospel Word: “Welcome” (Gk: “*Proslambanō*”)

**Key Idea:** “Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.”

- What’s the difference between tolerating someone and truly welcoming them into your heart?
- How does remembering how Christ welcomed you—undeservedly and joyfully—reshape how you relate to believers from different traditions or backgrounds?

#### C. Unity in Diversity & the Cost of Love

**Key Idea:** Unity doesn’t mean uniformity—it’s unity in diversity, sustained by sacrificial love.

- What might it cost you—time, comfort, preference—to welcome believers who differ from you?
- Identify one concrete way to “bear with” someone this month (Romans 15:1–2).

#### D. Together for Our City

**Key Idea:** One mind, one voice, one mission.

- What might “one mind and one voice” look like in San Diego’s churches?
- Brainstorm one tangible way our group could partner with another church or ministry in the next 60 days—through prayer, service, or mercy.

#### Soft Accountability — Next Steps (last 5 min)

Each person names one step for the week:

- **Welcome:** Who will you intentionally welcome across difference?
- **Bear With:** What preference will you lay down to build another up?
- **Witness:** How could your posture of unity point someone to Jesus?

#### Closing Prayer

**Read Romans 15:5–7** aloud together. Pray that Redeemer—and the wider church in our city—would become a living preview of heaven’s diverse worship (Revelation 7:9–10).

#### This Week’s Practice (Optional)

- **Hospitality of Heart:** Meet one believer from a different background (age, ethnicity, denomination, or style). Listen, pray, and encourage.
- **Scripture:** Pray John 17:20–23 daily; memorize Romans 15:7.
- **Reflection:** Each night ask, “*Where did I welcome as Christ welcomed me—and where did I judge or withdraw?*”