

**14 January 2024 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group**  
**“The One Who Controls Our Conscience” -- Romans 14:1-12**

Questions to Answer from the Text:

1. In the Roman church, who were Christians to welcome (v. 1a)?
2. What were Christians not to do when welcoming such into the church (v. 1b)?
3. Who were the ones despising others (v. 3a)?
4. Who were the ones judging others (v. 3b)?
5. Why are Christians not to despise or judge one another (v. 3c)?
6. What was the disagreement about days and certain foods (vv. 5-6)?
7. What did Paul say was an important principle that had to be considered when deciding these questions (vv. 7-9)?
8. Why must Christians not judge or despise their brethren (vv. 10-12)?

Questions to Ponder and Reflect upon the Teaching and Applications Based on the Text:

9. What is the conscience?
10. How does Romans 14:1-12 teach the principle that God alone is Lord of the conscience?
11. Why is God alone the Lord and Master of every person's conscience?
12. In what two ways is liberty of conscience destroyed and betrayed? [See WCF 20.2]
13. How is Christian liberty extinguished? [See WCF 20.3]
14. What might be the difference between a conviction and a preference?
15. What is your belief about the day for God's people to gather publicly to worship the Lord? Do you believe you may publicly worship Christ on a day other than this? Why or why not?
16. If you have a conviction about a certain belief, how open and ready should you be to consider an opposite view?
17. How should you go about trying to inform or change another person's convictions?
18. How would you respond and handle an external authority's requirement or pressure upon penalty of censure or sanction that you believe something you do not believe?

19. Have you faced, or do you presently face, pressure or coercion to believe something contrary to your conscience?  
How did (do) you handle this?
  
20. How do you know if Christ is the Lord of your conscience, or if you are the lord of your conscience?