

**CONNECT Group study questions for Nov. 3, 2018**  
**Title: "Handling Gray Areas, Part 1"**

**Read Romans 14:1-12**

1. Human beings have a virtually limitless capacity to ascribe virtue to the things we like and vice to the things we dislike. This is why we have such a hard time getting along when it comes to the "gray areas" in the Christian life. But God calls us to unity. According to the Scripture, why is Christian unity, even on these "gray area" issues, so important to Paul?

2. Paul gives two guidelines for how to navigate the church through gray areas. 1) The strong in faith must not reject the one who is struggling with the issue. And 2) those who struggle in the faith must not judge those who have freedom in that area.

-Why does the gospel not allow us to reject the one who has the stricter conscience?

-Why does the gospel not allow us to judge those who have the less strict conscience in these gray areas?

3. Paul gives three principles to help us think through our personal position on "gray area" issues. 1) The principle of a sincere heart (Rm 14:6). 2) The principle of Lordship (Rm 14:7-9). And 3) the principle of judgement. (Rm 14:10-12). With your group, brainstorm some "gray area" issues that face the church today and think through how to apply these three principles to those issues.