

Made for More: Small Group Guide

Week 7: Accept Each Other

February 15, 2026

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

Icebreaker Question: Share one significant way you've changed in the past 5-10 years. How do you think those closest to you have responded to that change?

Sermon Overview

This sermon calls us to strengthen our relationships by learning to truly accept one another through the ages and stages of life, just as Christ accepted us. Rooted in Romans 15:7, it explores how appreciating our differences, adapting through life's changing seasons, and adjusting our expectations help us move from critique and control to compassion and commitment, all for the glory of God.

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Message

1. **The pastor said, "You're not the person I married" reveals a misconception about relationships.** What is that misconception? Why is it unrealistic to expect people to remain unchanged?
2. **Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-27 together.** How does Paul's body analogy apply not just to church, but to marriages, families, and friendships? What does it mean that we "need" each other's differences?
3. **What's the difference between tolerating someone's differences and truly appreciating them?** Can you think of an example from your own life?

Personal Reflection

4. **The sermon challenged us to "marvel" at differences rather than critique them.** Think of someone close to you who does things very differently than you. What can you marvel at about their approach?
5. **"People are a lot like the weather—unpredictable, uncontrollable, and sometimes downright messy."** How have you tried to "control the weather" (control people) in your relationships? What would it look like to "dress for it" instead (adapt with grace)?
6. **The pastor mentioned we sometimes try to play the role of the Holy Spirit in others' lives.** When are you most tempted to do this? What would it look like to step back and let the Spirit work?

Application and Growth

7. **Think about a relationship where someone has changed significantly.** How have you responded? What might need to shift in your approach to better accept them through this season?
 8. **The sermon distinguished between adjusting expectations and compromising convictions.** How do you know the difference? Can you give an example of each?
 9. **Romans 15:5-6 talks about having "the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had."** What characterized Christ's attitude toward people who were different from Him or who changed? How can you cultivate that same attitude?
 10. **For married couples: What expectations did you bring into marriage that have needed adjustment?** How has learning to adjust expectations strengthened your relationship?
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Memory Verse

Romans 15:7 - "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

Prayer Focus

Pray for:

- Humility to accept others as they change through life's seasons
- Wisdom to know when to adjust expectations vs. stand on convictions
- Grace to marvel at differences rather than critique them
- Relationships that are struggling with change
- Hearts that reflect Christ's acceptance of us

Personal Prayer Requests: *(Take time to share and pray for specific relationship challenges in your group)*

Closing Thought: "We are made for more in our relationships—not to settle for 'meh' or 'good enough,' but for the great that God desires for us. And it starts with accepting one another, just as Christ accepted us."