













Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	w/c 16 th October 2022	To Inclusion & Beyond: Navigating traffic lights & disputable matters	
 Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What food item(s) could you happily give up? <input type="checkbox"/> What food item(s) would you be reluctant to give up? <input type="checkbox"/> Play <i>Trefah or Kosher</i>. Jewish food laws (Kashrut) group all foods as either <u>kosher</u> ('fit' or lawful) or <u>trefah</u> (not 'fit' or unlawful/ sin). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cow (kosher – split hooped mammal & chews the cud) 2. Pig (trefah – split hooped mammal but does not chew the cud) 3. Prawn (trafah – no scales or fins) 4. Lamb (kosher – split hooped mammal & chews cud) 5. Rabbit (trefah – mammal chews cud but not split hooped) 6. Carrots (kosher – all vegetables) 7. Eggs (kosher but only IF from kosher mammal) 8. Shark (trefah – fins but no scales) 9. Apple (kosher – all fruit) 10. Bacon Cheeseburger (trefah – pig AND mixed meat & dairy) 		
 Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How can those who love God, are filled with the Holy Spirit, and read/ seek to live by the same Bible come to <i>different</i> views on some issues/ beliefs? Is that good or bad? <input type="checkbox"/> What issues were churches hotly debating in the past that now seem 'settled'? <input type="checkbox"/> When is "agree to disagree" not adequate enough? 		
 Read	Romans 14:1-23	 Catch-up	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> v.1 What are some issues today that Christians differ in their approach? If the Greek word translated as 'disputable matters' is <i>dialogismōn</i> (διαλογισμῶν), what would happen if we did less <i>disputing</i> and more <i>dialoguing</i>? <input type="checkbox"/> v.2 For Jews, eating trefah (unlawful) meat was not just disagreeable, it was <u>sin</u>. Yet, God told Peter to <i>Catch it. Kill it. Eat it</i> (Acts 10) Have you ever changed your understanding on an issue/ belief? What? When? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> v.13 How has the Church-at-large historically put a stumbling block in front of gay Christians? What distress has that caused? How can churches become 'safe spaces' for LGBTQ+ people? How do you think we're doing (so far)? <input type="checkbox"/> v.14 Is it good to know your own mind on issues/ beliefs? How do we keep that healthy? <input type="checkbox"/> v.15 Paul says, if you think you're right (your argument is strong), to promote unity and reduce other's distress, lay down your privilege. What does it mean to not block others, even those you disagree with? <input type="checkbox"/> Why are those who shout the loudest sometimes the weakest? 		

 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> If selling land permanently was unlawful (Lev.25:23), why are some Christians so positive about buying property but so LGBTQ+ negative? Why do we ignore some Levitical laws but take a literal approach to others? What does that say about us? Do we need to become more inclusive of Estate Agents?
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more e? Why?
 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Missed the recent Deeper session: <i>What does the Bible say about sexuality?</i> To read the notes, go to: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Deeper
 Pray	<p><i>Dear God,</i> <i>Thank you that You came, lived, died and rose again for EVERYONE, whatever their ____.</i> I/ we pray for our gay brothers and sisters in Christ, that they will ____. <i>Forgive me/us, when I/we have ____.</i> For the sake of unity, and to reduce others distress, I/we ____. <i>Help me/ us to become more ____.</i> Amen</p>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk