



Romans 14:1-13

Judge Not

Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged

Matthew 7:1-2a NKJV

Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, and criticize their faults— unless, of course, you want the same treatment.

THE MESSAGE

Do not condemn or negatively criticize Christians who have different convictions from us, particularly in things that the Bible does not specifically command or forbid.

διαλογισμῶν [dialogismos]

- disputable matters
- personal opinions
- doubtful matters
- reasonings
- speculations
- motives

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. (Romans 14:1)

(διαλογισμῶν)

Adiaphora

- matters of indifference
- customs and traditions or secondary beliefs that are not crucial to the Gospel
- Bible does not specifically command or forbid

Adiaphora

- Dietary preferences (Rom 14:2)
- Observance of special days (Rom 14:5)

Testimony

“I was previously a vegetarian due to religious reasons. After I came to Christ, I read the Bible and learned God gave us permission to eat meat, so it is okay for me to do so. The only reason I did not start eating meat was because I could not overcome the hurdle in my mind, which was telling me not to do so. Though I remain vegetarian today to most extent, over the years I have “tricked” myself into eating many things that are not completely vegetarian, so long as I do not smell any form of meat or egg. So far I have only gone as far as eating cakes and pastries. 😊 ”

Adiaphora

- Dietary preferences (Rom 14:2)
- Observance of special days (Rom 14:5)
- Bible translations
- Forms of worship
- Mode of baptism
- Eating food offered to idols
- Card or mahjong playing
- **??????????**

Pokemon Go – A Possible Guide for Christians

http://www.aldersgate.sg/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/POKEMON-GO-REAL.pdf

1. Do not be addicted to it. Stop and ponder regularly as you play.
2. You might also have an open door to the spiritual world if you have dabbled with the occult before and have been oppressed.
3. Be alert to the Lord's leading.
4. Be aware of the worldview and values you might embrace.
5. Please DO NOT play the game in Church. Let us honor God's presence in this holy place.

6. As you are probably aware, different churches and pastors hold different positions. It varies from great openness to abject rejection.

Keep three principles in mind:

- Do not bear false witness against the game and one another.
- Do not be easily frightened when you encounter imaginative genres in literature or games.
- Guard the unity of the spirit. Avoid the spirit of condemnation and judgementalism.

Negative criticism never helps!

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. Rom 14:1 NIV

Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to dispute over doubtful things. NKJV

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but do not argue with them about their personal opinions. GNB

Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump on them every time they do or say something you don't agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently. THE MESSAGE

So where does that leave you when you criticize a brother? And where does that leave you when you condescend to a sister? I'd say it leaves you looking pretty silly—or worse. Eventually, we're all going to end up kneeling side by side in the place of judgment, facing God. Your critical and condescending ways will not improve your position one bit.

Read it for yourself in Scripture:

“As I live and breathe,” God says,
every knee will bow before me;
Every tongue will tell the honest truth
that I and only I am God.”

So tend to your knitting. You've got your hands full just taking care of your own life before God.

Rom 14:10-12 MSG

Help Us Accept Each Other

Stanza 1

Help us accept each other
As Christ accepted us
Teach us as sister, brother
Each person to embrace
Be present, Lord, among us
And bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted
And meant to love and live.

Help Us Accept Each Other

Stanza 3

Let your acceptance change us
So that we may be moved
In living situations
To do the truth in love
To practice your acceptance
Until we know by heart
The table of forgiveness
And laughter's healing art.

**JUDGE NOT.
ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER.
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**