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Key Ideas from the Sermon:

- Diversity is the reality of God's church because he saves people from every nation, religion and generation. Therefore, diversity is not always the problem we think it is.
- Disputable matters are issues that: (1) don't call into question a Christian's faith status, and (2) Scripture doesn't clearly call out as sin. They are non-essential matters to one's salvation and life with Christ that Christians have freedom to disagree upon.
- The weak in faith are those whose conscience restricts them from something Scripture permits. This doesn't make someone less Christian and isn't an issue to be changed.
- The real problem that arises from diversity is a proud heart that leads to judgementalism. Christians become judgmental when we make ourselves the measure of who we love and accept and judge others against ourselves. The weak and the strong can both close their hearts to each other because they differ on non-essentials.
- God's standard for our acceptance of others is his acceptance of us through our justification by faith in Christ. We let God set the standard as judge, master and Lord. We accept those God has accepted as servants who serve the same Lord Jesus Christ.



1. Begin by praying, asking God to speak through His Word
2. Read the Bible passage aloud, being careful to read slowly
3. Go back over the passage (allow about 10 minutes of silence), being on the lookout for and taking note of the following four things:



Lightbulb: This should be something that 'shines' from the passage- whatever impacts most, or draws attention.

Notes:



Question mark: Anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question the reader might like to ask the writer of the passage, or the Lord.

Notes:



Jesus: What does this passage teach me about who Jesus is, what he has done for me and what it means for me to follow him in my life.

Notes:



Arrow: A personal application for the readers life.

Notes: