



Unity and Hope in the Church

Romans 15:1-13

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1. The strong have an obligation to serve and *bear* the weak.
2. The Scripture foretold the freedom In Christ that all nations would experience. Many things are permissible, but not always beneficial.
3. When the strong bear with the weak, and don't cling to their *rights*, unity is discovered in Christ. This glorifies God and creates a witness to the world.
4. Christ fulfilled the law, which is found in loving God and loving your neighbor. Paul argues in this passage that bearing with each other fulfills the law as well, following in Christ's footsteps.
5. The purpose for fighting for unity in the way we interact with other Christians—also known as keeping the main things the main things, and being willing to *bear* with the gray areas—is to display and experience God's hope for all the nations of the world.