What To Do About The Weak Ones?

So many different Christians: different beliefs, different practices. What are we to do when we encounter other Christians who don't think like we do? That's the question Paul deals with in Romans chapter 14, and on in to chapter 15. In this study we are going to think about what he has to say in just the first four verses: Romans 14:1 – 4

- What kind of person does Paul have in mind when he writes about "one who is weak in the faith" (verse 1)?

- What does the word "receive" mean (verse 1)?

- What does Paul rule out when he says, "Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things" (verse 1)?

- In what ways can we “despise” brothers or sister who think differently to the way we think (verse 3)?

- How can we avoid judging brothers or sisters who think differently (verse 3)?

- What is meant by the words at the end of verse 3, “God has received him”?

- In what way are Paul’s words in verse 4, “To his own master he stands or falls.” An incentive to for us to avoid judging one another?

- What are the implications of what is said at the end of verse 4, “He will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.”?

- Thinking of some of the people whose views you differ with, what difference will your understanding of these verses make to your attitudes and conversation?