

**So how do we decide who to
have fellowship with?!**

THIS WEEK!!!

and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we [should go] to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. (Gal 2:9)

Must we judge? “Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment.” (Jhn 7:24)

Can the line of fellowship be as simple as baptism?

No, because people fall away and faithful become false teachers.
(1 Tim 4:1-3, Acts 20:29-31)

How about total doctrinal agreement?

“However, there is not in every man that knowledge” (1 Cor 8:4-7)

Or maybe just the “Big” moral issues?

Who decides what is “Big”?

- Circumcision? (Acts 15:1-2, 24)
- Vegetarianism? (1 Tim 4:3)

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment; so that you may approve the things that are excellent; that you may be sincere and void of offence unto the day of Christ; (Php 1:9-10)

Reasons not to break fellowship!

Personal disputes - Php 4:2-3

Personal practices that are not imposed upon others – Rom 14:1-6
- these personal practices cannot be sin! (1 Cor 5:1-2)

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. (Rom 14:1-4)

So where do we draw the lines of fellowship?

When fellowship would cause you to sin Rom 14:23

When others are imposing personal preferences as law

Ax 15:1-2, 24; 1 Tim 4:1-3

When they show a disregard for God's authority Jude 8-13

When someone is factious or shows a love for controversy

1 Tim 6:3-5

When they are drawing others away from God Ax 20:30

When they are promoting immorality Rev 2:20

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