

# Victory's Voice

Victory Worship International

February 2026

## Living with our Differences!

When I got saved in 1973, I learned quite early that there were many believers in Christ who saw things in the bible different than I did. I had to realize the body of Christ was worldwide and viewpoints were many. We were not like the cults who had to believe and say the same things. In fact, they were not allowed to think for themselves in most of those circles. For instance, I noticed that if I spoke to more than one Jehovah's Witness and asked them a question they would answer with the same exact response. This was something they practice in their Kingdom Halls, and they even took pride in it. How do I know? Because I studied with them back in 1972 for a short while and almost became one of them. I also witnessed to the Mormons, and they were very similar. But, as I studied the scriptures I noticed in **Romans 14**, having one's own **conviction** on a particular issue was not a bad thing. In fact, God allowed the believers to have their own differences or opinions. **Rom 14:5** *One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. **Let each be fully convinced in his own mind.*** NKJV

**Let each be fully convinced.** Each Christian must follow the dictates of his **own conscience in matters not specifically commanded or prohibited in Scripture.** Since conscience is a God-given mechanism to warn, and responds to the highest standard of moral law in the mind (2:14-15), it is not sensible to train yourself to ignore it. Rather, respond to its compunctions, and *as you mature, by learning more, your mind will not alert it to those things which are not essential.* (Macarthur Study Bible)

**Comment:** Among the many denominations and divisions of the Christian faith, debates arise. There

are disagreements about church policy, six-day creationism, mode of baptism, and eschatology. There are differences of opinion about social drinking, the gifts of the Spirit, and what makes clothing "modest." Some of these issues are more important than others, and it is good, to prevent unnecessary clashes and divisions, to distinguish between what is worth debating and what is not.

**2 Timothy 2:15-16** has this instruction: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth. But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness." We are expected to study God's Word for ourselves, not just talk about it or take the opinion of someone else about what it says. *Simply because a speaker is famous or popular does not mean he is accurate.* God has given His Word to us, and He expects us to use it. An example of this kind of spiritual diligence is found in **Acts 17:10-12.** The Bereans heard the gospel preached by Paul and Silas, and they "examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true." They did not merely take Paul's word for it but compared everything to the Word of God. Only when they found his gospel was supported by Scripture were they willing to be taught by him. When we believe someone is in doctrinal error, we can humbly and respectfully point it out. **But we have to remember that others with equal reverence for God's Word may read it differently. Such discussion is healthy if approached with the right attitude and a teachable spirit.** We learn much from the input of others and **may even change our viewpoint when presented with a new perspective.** Some topics have challenged sincere believers since the early church. Respectful debate on important issues is

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# Jesus loves you!

beneficial to everyone involved, if it is done in the spirit of Christ without ego or personal agenda. **Colossians 4:6** gives clear instruction about how we should conduct ourselves in debates: **“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”**

**We can “agree to disagree” on issues that do not involve salvation or godly living.** Our ultimate goal should not be to prove our point but to model the kind of love and acceptance that Jesus showed His disciples (**John 13:34–35**). *No human being has all the answers on every subject.* Our goal should be to immerse ourselves in God’s Word so that we recognize error when we hear it. But we must also purpose to approach every non-essential issue with a teachable spirit so that we can best fulfill God’s desire for unity in His church (1 John 4:12). **In the words of 17th-century theologian Rupertus Meldenius, “In the essentials, unity; in the non-essentials, diversity; in all things, charity.”** [In the Christian faith, what issues are truly worth debating? - gotquestions.org]

Until the trumpet sounds, 1 Thess. 4:13-18

*Pastor George*

Where do you turn for Encouragement?

Where can you find wholly devoted Christians who have an easy, trouble-free life? Show me a Spirit-led, God-filled, anointed servant of the Lord, and I will show you one who is chased, chastened, often baffled and familiar with deep waters and fiery furnaces.

Those who seek to avoid difficulties seldom get the revelation of God’s fullness. They attempt to use faith to exempt themselves from crises, not realizing they are robbing themselves of the great opportunity to find out what is really in them. The day comes when trouble can no longer be avoided, and they cave in, having no proven source of inner

strength.

Paul wrote, “That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man” (Ephesians 3:16)

The Lord needs servants who are not tossed about by every wind and wave of doctrine; who have discernment and are not being deceived; who need no special teacher with some new revelation; who do not need a human shepherd to guide their every step. They are not dependent on another for their happiness or spiritual strength. Instead, they have been tested and have proven that the very life of God is in them, providing grace and mercy to help in every need. Christ has been revealed not only to these servants but in them.

We can learn valuable lessons from King David’s experience at Ziklag. “David strengthened himself in the Lord his God” (1 Samuel 30:6). It is imperative that we learn to encourage ourselves in the Lord because of the troubled times ahead.

I beseech you in the name of the Lord: Open your eyes to the mighty power of God at work in you. Appropriate the fullness and completeness of the Lord Jesus Christ. No matter what fiery furnace you may be cast into, your supreme Lord will walk you through it.

David Wilkerson, God is Faithful Devotional, February 20, Page 68

## February Calendar

1 Sun	Communion Service	11 am
11 Wed	Love Panel	7 pm
14 Sat	Men's Breakfast	8 am
14 Sat	Valentines Day	
16 Mon	Presidents Day	
28 Sat	Evangelism Outreach	9-11 am
	Weather permitting	

**Victory Worship International**  
**757-480-2400**

3520 Johns St., Norfolk, VA 23513  
www.vwchurch.org