

## Taking It Home

In this series we have learned how to recharge our relationships by applying three essential values—respect, responsibility and relevance.

So when you get into a dispute, be intentional about using each one of these.

- Respect will lead you to view the other person from God's perspective and not make it about you.
- Responsibility will lead you to evaluate your own actions and lay them before God.
- Relevance will lead you to first seek to understand the other person's point of view.

You will be amazed how quickly disputes can be resolved when you use these values.



### LIFE GROUP LESSON—A Nine Volt Battery

Week of 1/25/15

#### Quick Review:

What insight, principle or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye opening or troubling?

#### My Story:

1. Think about disputes you have had in your personal life. Would you describe yourself as one who enjoys a good argument and has to prove your point, or are you appeasing and give in easily, or do you seek a compromise?

## Digging deeper:

This week in the Recharge series, we looked at the third element necessary to recharge a relationship—relevance. Relevance in relationships means that we seek to understand before we seek to be understood; that we focus on listening before we focus on talking. Pastor Bob taught from Romans 14, where Paul speaks about how the practice of our faith can impact our fellow believers. He refers to weak faith that may, because of its lack of maturity, attempt to impose additional rules and regulations to the Scripture, even giving them equal importance with God’s explicit laws. He contrasts that with a strong faith that may, if coupled with insensitivity or lack of relevance, flaunt its freedom in such a way that offends the conscience of other believers, which could then become a stumbling block to those whose faith is weaker. There will be differences of opinion in the church, but Paul warns against them becoming cause for division. The Church must be uncompromising in its stand against those things expressly forbidden by Scripture, but beyond that, we must live in a way that leads to peace and mutual edification.

1. In Romans 14:1, how would you define what Paul means by “disputes over doubtful things?”
2. Read Romans 14:4. Discuss what it means by “God is able to make him stand.”
3. What principle is evident when we read Romans 14:7-12?
4. What principles should guide us when we are dealing with differences of opinion on matters that do not violate the moral law?
5. Read Romans 14:13, 17-18. Instead of judging, where should we focus our attention?
6. Read Romans 14:19-20. Discuss what should characterize the church. What warning should we heed from this passage?