

Connect timeless truths with today's news.

REMOVING OBSTACLES TO HOUSING

Late last month, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced \$85 million in “innovative competitive grants for communities to identify and remove barriers to affordable housing production and preservation.” Government entities at the local and state level can apply for grants ranging from \$1 million to \$10 million to help them improve zoning restrictions, housing policies, and the availability of affordable new homes and the preservation of existing ones. “HUD recognizes that communities have unique housing challenges,” said HUD Secretary Marcia L. Fudge in announcing the new grants. “Today, we are acting to increase the supply of affordable housing, which is crucial to lowering housing costs.”

REMOVING OBSTACLES TO FAITH

Paul wrote to the believers in Rome that they should be sensitive in their exercise of freedoms so as not to offend or upset other, especially new, Christians. For example, eating food dedicated to idols could cause some brothers and sisters to question their faith. Instead, mature Christians could exercise some of their freedoms in different circumstances to avoid putting obstacles in the way of people coming to faith. Better to temporarily not eat something than to eat it in such a way that it makes someone stumble.

1. If you had a \$10 million grant to deal with some housing issue, how would you use it?
2. What's something about the Christian life that an unbeliever might not understand?
3. How can we be careful that an unbeliever or less mature Christian will not be harmed by our actions?

Additional Resources

These videos and materials are for your personal use. If you show videos in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

Music Video, Traditional: [“My Jesus, I Love Thee” by Darlene Zschech](#)

Music Video, Multicultural: [“Stranger” by K. Anthony](#)

Music Video, Contemporary: [“Stranger” by K. Anthony](#)

[Guzik's Commentary on Romans 14](#)

[Bible.org Commentary on Romans 14](#)

[Coffman's Commentary on Romans 14](#)