

Learning and Living the Bible Together

Romans 15 & 16

Paul's Farewell

> **Romans 15:14-33 — Characteristics in Paul's life we should have in our life:**

- 1. We should encourage fellow Christians in their walk. (v. 14)**
 - encouragement includes both affirmation and counsel
- 2. We should be faithful to the grace given to us. (v. 15-16)**
 - we have been called, providentially placed, and given spiritual gifts for use in His kingdom
- 3. We should be burdened to present the Gospel to all. (vv. 16, 19, 20-21)**
 - sacrifice so others can hear (1400 miles from Jerusalem to Illyricum)
 - have a heart for those who have never heard
 - live Romans 1:16
- 4. We should be God focused and not self centered. (vv. 17-18)**
 - proclaim and boast about Him and do not seek self glory or praise
- 5. We should serve, trusting in God's providential hand. (v. 22)**
 - willing to go anywhere but submitting to His direction
- 6. We should have love for Christian brothers and sisters, even those we have not met. (vv. 22-24, 32-33)**
- 7. We should be willing to sacrifice for others, be willing to ask others to sacrifice to help fellow Christians, and focus on building unity in the body of Christ. (vv. 25-27)**
 - give to brothers and sisters in need around the world
- 8. We should not be content based on our past service to Christ but go forward in service to Him accompanied by planning to do more for Him. (vv. 24,28)**
 - we should plan and act this year on doing more in service to Him
- 9. We should be people of prayer realizing we cannot serve without His power. (v. 30)**
 - pray with diligence and a burden for the Gospel to advance
- 10. We should pursue the will of God and yield ourselves with our time, resources, and energy. (15:14-33)**
 - dependent upon the Holy Spirit to lead us (vv. 16, 19, 29-30)
 - walking in love

> Romans 16 — Final Words

1. **We should lovingly receive one another in Christ, offer our help to them as they come to us, and commend them for their Kingdom work. (16:1-2)**
2. **Christian brothers and sisters are to have genuine love for one another in Christ. (16:3-16; 21-24)**
 - We should know each other by name and know of their work in the Kingdom.
 - We should encourage each other by commending one another in their work in the Kingdom.
 - * we encourage all, even the less visible and lesser known
 - We should publicly encourage others and not seek glory for ourselves.
 - We should love one another by unselfishly giving of ourselves to work beside them in Kingdom work.
 - * to the point of risking our lives for one another (v.4)
 - We should have genuine warmth and tenderness for one another. And our Godly affection for one another should be evident to others. (v. 16)
 - God's Kingdom is diverse. So should our fellowship be.
 - We should seek to foster a family feeling and community within the church body. (vv. 21-24)
 - We should work together to build His Kingdom and do His work.
3. **We must be careful to guard ourselves and the local church against false doctrine. (16:17-20)**
 - Work to bring unity and peace within the local church.
 - Be on guard by using the Word as your source of wisdom. People can deceive with smooth or flattering speech.
 - Walk in obedience to Him.
 - Realize the devil will always be attacking. But be encouraged. God wins!
4. **We should walk in praise to God for His work. (16:25-27)**
 - God is able to save.
 - God is able to establish us only because of the work of Christ.
 - * we are stable and secure in Him because of the work of Christ.
 - God has planned and has prophesied of salvation before and throughout time.
 - God offers salvation to every nation.
 - God, our source of all wisdom, is worthy of all of our praise, adoration, and worship.