

# "GOSPEL BOLDNESS"

ONE: CHRIST. CHARIS. CHURCH & CHARGE

## **FOREVER CHANGED**

*faith. forgiveness. freedom. future.*

Part 35 / Romans 15:14-21 / Dr. Matt Jones

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### I. Undeserving Sinners (Romans 1-15:13)

A. God's Authority

B. Grace Abounds

C. Getting Along

arguments, adiaphora, and agape

### II. Unpacking to the Saints (Romans 15:14-21)

A. Reminder for Brethren (15:14-15)

B. Reason for Boasting (15:16-20)

C. Revelation of Belief (15:21)

### III. Understanding Salvation

A. Faith

B. Fulfillment

C. Future

# COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

## Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

1. In Romans 15:14, Paul talks about the church thriving together in admonishing one another. The word admonish means to "earnestly urge or warn." Our English word comes from the Latin *admonere* meaning 'urge by warning.' With this in mind, talk about the role of admonishment in your life. How have you benefitted from others warning you? Can you think of a story to share in which a fellow believer warned you of something that protected you? Have you ever tried to warn someone you love about something and they didn't receive it well? If you can, share.
2. In Romans 15:17, Paul talks about "boasting in things pertaining to God." Thinking about boasting in God, take some time to look up what Paul says about boasting and the boastful (Rom. 1:30, 2:17, 23; 3:27). How does Paul use the idea of boasting in the letter to the Romans? What is the role of boasting in the Lord for the witness and sanctification of the church? Before Christ, what did you boast in?
3. In Romans 15:23, Paul talks about how he was "longing to come" to Rome for "many years" to see the work of God happening among them. When you think about places and peoples where God is working, who and where would you long to visit to see God's work in spreading the gospel? Share. As we think about God's work in the world in saving the lost and building the church in discipleship, let's think about the places in the world where the gospel has not spread. As a community, take some time to talk about the unreached peoples and places in the world. You can look them up here at <https://joshuaproject.net/unreached/1> and also check out these prayer cards <https://joshuaproject.net/pray/cards/unreached/1> and spend some time praying for the unreached peoples of the world together.
4. In Rom. 15 the Apostle speaks of the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Godhead, who eternally dwells with the Father and the Son) at least four times. Take some time to look at the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter and discuss what it says about the Spirit and our union in Christ.
5. In light of the above question discussing the work of the Holy Spirit among us, discuss the following quote by AW Tozer, a Christian minister, who once pointed out this tendency we have as God's people to rely on our own strength and not the work of the Spirit. Tozer said, "If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference." As you discuss this quote/observation, try to get personal and share about ways in which God is working in you by the Spirit to teach you to rely on Him.
6. In Romans 15:32 the Apostle Paul talks about the "refreshing rest" of "company" we have with fellow believers, who "by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, strive together..." (v.30). With these verses in mind, talk about how you are refreshed by fellowship with saints in the church who strive to live faithfully and lovingly. As you share, make your answers personal by talking about people by name in the church who encourage you. Share how they refresh you and also pray together about any discouragements the world is bringing your way in recent time.