

Romans

Lesson 21: Romans 15:1–13

We live in a culture of self-indulgence that tells us to live for number one—me. However, God’s message is very different from the world. What does God tell His people to do? Be selfless. Selfishness breeds disunity and factions but God wants His church to be unified and likeminded. Paul told the church at Corinth, “Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Cor. 1:10). In Romans 15, Paul is going to reiterate the same message to the believers at Rome. Let’s dive in and see what Paul says about unity in the church and how unity brings glory to Christ.

➤ **Read Romans 15:1–6**

1. In verse 1, what is the obligation of the mature believers?
2. According to verse 2, what are two objectives for pleasing our neighbor?
3. In verse 3, what example does Paul give of selflessness?
4. According to verse 4, how do the Scriptures bring unity in the church?

Application: How is your knowledge of the Old Testament? What are ways you can grow in your knowledge and understanding of it? Why is this important?

5. According to verse 5, what is needed for there to be unity in the church?

6. According to verse 6, what is the goal of unity in the church?

Application: Paul's prayer in verses 5 and 6 is for unity and like-mindedness among believers. Does unity mean that believers must come to the same opinions or convictions about everything? Why or why not?

➤ **Read Romans 15:7–13**

7. According to verse 7, what command does Paul give the Romans?

8. According to verse 8, who did Christ become a servant to? What did this show to those saved people?

9. In verses 9–12, who did God show mercy to?

10. In verse 12, what did Christ give the Gentiles?

Application: Based upon Paul's command in verse 7, why is it important for him to address both Jews and Gentiles?

11. According to verse 13, how does Paul's benediction (prayer) encourage unity in the church?

Application: Paul ends this section with a prayerful benediction. How does prayer bring about unity in the church?

Application: Pray the prayers of verses 5 and 13 for yourself and for others.

Application: What one verse impacted you the most in this study? Explain.