In The Group

如果您是国家的领导人，您会做出的第一个行政部门决定是什么？

您想参加哪档每周电视节目？

如果您要开设一家商店，它会叫什么名字？

《罗马书》是《圣经》中关于上帝救恩最雄伟的探索。

我们经常认为得救是完全私人或个人的事情。但《罗马书》将救恩链接到非常公开的事情：属于一个基督教社区（一个教会）。从第12章，使徒保罗已经表明，得救需要与其它信徒分享你的灵性恩赐，以及学习如何与你教会里的人相处（考虑罗12:9-21）。第13章教导信徒如何与教会外的人相处。我们刚刚看到第14章教导信徒要为彼此考虑。因此，救恩不仅仅是关于上帝为你所做的，也关于上帝在你和我身上所做的一切，以及这如何影响我们彼此如何联系。

1. 根据罗马书15:1信徒被指示做两件事情？

2. 罗马书15:2告诉我们超越只是为他人着想，告诉我们为他人着想。罗马书15:3给了什么理由？

《圣经》《罗马书》，由安德鲁·科比特博士编著
3. Based on Romans 15:4, why has God given us the gift of the Bible, and what does reading the Bible produce in the believer?

Many people think that when someone becomes a follower of Christ that they become nice, loving, caring, considerate, and easy to get along with.

4. Consider Paul’s prayer for the church in Romans 15:5-6. Why did Paul have to pray this for the church? Do we need to pray this for our church?

Consider how a newcomer feels arriving at our church meeting for the first time.

5. In Romans 15:7 is Paul talking about welcoming Christians into the local church, or non-Christians? How are we to welcome people into our churches? What are some ways that will not make a newcomer feel welcome to our church?

Paul says that God is glorified when new people are welcomed into the church. A church could have great preaching, great worship, great facilities, great programs, but if it is not a welcoming church is not a great church!

**CHRIST THE EXAMPLE OF SERVANTHOOD**

6. Why are some in our church reluctant to make newcomers feel welcome to our church? What lesson is Paul trying to teach believers about welcoming others into our church in Romans 15:8?
It takes both humility and maturity to put our own troubles and fears aside to reach out to another person. The ultimate expression of humility and maturity in reaching out to others who are different is Jesus Christ. Paul tells us that Christ died to redeem ungrateful Gentiles and now welcomes into His family those formerly ungrateful Gentiles who turn to Him. If Christ did this for us, how should we display His life in us to others - especially to those who are different to us?

Perhaps the worst pain anyone can feel is rejection. To be accepted causes a person to feel like they have worth in the eyes of another. Surely we all need to feel this. But there are some people who have been rejected by those they had every reason to expect to be accepted by. Their hurt is deep. They go through life feeling worthless, unloved, unwanted, without hope. Paul tells us that Jesus has reached out to such people.

7. We may have been rejected by people, but if we are accepted by Jesus Christ what effect does this have in us? (Romans 15:13)

8. Note what Paul says in Romans 15:14. Even if someone is not gifted to be a teacher, can we learn something from them about following Christ? Why or why not?

REMINDERS

You forgot didn’t you? We all forget. We all need reminding. So much of the Bible is a reminder. God has ordained that the church meet regularly so that His people are constantly reminded of what He has done, how we should follow and serve, and what His Word says. Most churches include the Holy Communion as part of their worship. Some churches do it each Sunday; others, once a month; still others celebrate it 3 or 4 times a year. Each time the church assembles to partake of the Communion together we are being reminded of something we need to be continually reminded of (note Romans 15:15).

9. Unlike some ministers who regard themselves as “priests” who offer up Christ continually as a sacrifice, Paul regarded his work as equally important as that of a ‘priest’. What did he say was his priestly ‘offering’? (Romans 15:16)
Paul knew that he was called to give his life to preaching the Gospel. Are you?

10. But Paul also knew that Christ had called him to preach to a particular audience. Who was this audience (vs. 16) and where was his audience (vs. 20-21)?

What challenges might Paul have faced in order to ‘fulfil’ (vs. 19) his ministry?

11. Read Romans 15:22-29 and note what other ministry Paul was fulfilling with the help of Gentile churches and why these Gentile churches were so eager to be involved in this ministry.

How does Paul telling the Romans this illustrate what he has told them at the start of this chapter?

12. What was Paul’s appeal to the Romans about this ministry of charity? (Romans 15:30-32)

13. What does Romans 15 further teach us about the Gospel?

14. How has God spoken to you through our study of Romans 15?

15. Write out your prayerful response to God as a result of studying Romans 15-

Amen.