

The Gospel Story: Proclaiming Christ

A Study of Romans

Romans 15:1-14-16:27

Pastor Bryan Clark

Opening Discussion

1. Has our study in Romans caused you to fall more deeply in love with Jesus and with one another? If yes, in what way? If not, why not?
2. Why do you think some people who have lots of Bible knowledge end up so arrogant and unkind to others? What's the core problem?
3. Can a true understanding of grace result in spiritual arrogance? Why or why not?
4. Most people tend toward one extreme or the other. Either they have a bent towards more knowledge but struggle to love people or a bent towards loving people but lack understanding of what's really true. Which way do you lean? What makes Paul the ultimate "Theologian/Pastor?"

Bible Study

1. Read Romans 15:14-21. How does Paul view his role to the Gentiles? Some have defined the two main responsibilities of the Church as Worship and Witness. Where do you see that in this text? How does this describe LBC's people loop?
2. What do we learn about our calling from these verses? In what way do we function as "priests" related to our calling to serve?
3. Read Romans 15:22-29. In what ways do you see Paul's level of commitment to people from this text? How does Paul's commitment to his calling compare with our "Christian Celebrity" culture today?

4. Read Romans 15:30-33. Compare Acts 21:15-22:30. The Acts account is what actually happened to Paul once he arrived in Jerusalem. How does this account affect your view of Paul's commitment to his calling? What do you learn from his example for fulfilling your own calling?
5. Read Acts 16:1-16. Why would Paul use up 16 verses in a book, that is characterized by an economy of language, on names? What does this text teach us about Paul and his heart?
6. What's the concern in Romans 16:17-20? How might this concern show up in churches today? What are some of the characteristics of these false teachers according to this text? How can we "keep your eye on those..." in our own context today?
7. Read Romans 16:25-27. Rewrite this paragraph in your own words. What is the primary responsibility of the church today? How do we do that?

Application

1. How does this final section of Romans capture and reveal Paul's heart? What do you learn from that? What one area of your life, based on this final section of Romans, would you like to grow in?
2. Who are some of the people you might list in the final chapter of your Epistle? Why?
3. Reviewing what Paul was willing to sacrifice for his calling, what is your level of commitment to your calling?