

“Christian Zeal: Let Us Boast in the Lord”
Romans 15:14-21

“The Holy Spirit is the great ENCOURAGER and Satan is the great DISCOURAGER. We have been called to be encouraging, therefore, the local church should be the most encouraging place on earth.” (Steven Lawson)

“The voices of the world are a never ending avalanche of lies. That is why we so desperately need a heavy dose of the Word of God.”

- (v.14): Paul starts out this new section with ENCOURAGEMENT. He is proud to identify with them as brothers and sisters in Christ (Romans 1:8 & 12) and he is encouraged by their lives. Their holy lives were a product of living according to the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). True encouragement is telling people what they need to hear, not what they want to hear.

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- (v. 15): The Word of God is meant to be shared boldly (2 Timothy 4:2-4; Colossians 1:28-29) and to be shared with love (Ephesians 4:15) and with great patience, because sanctification is a process (Philippians 2:12-13).

“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching....” (2 Timothy 4:2-3)

“...work out your salvation (sanctification) with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:12-13)

- (v. 16): Everything that we do as Christians is by grace (1 Peter 4:10-11; Romans 1:5-6). The job of the priest was to present the people to God and the job of the prophet was to present God to the people. Paul wanted to work to see the Gentiles saved and to see the Gentiles sanctified (Romans 1:14). The Christian is never about quantity but about quality (Hebrews 13:7 & 15-17).

“Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.... Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.” (Hebrews 13:7 & 15-17)

- (v. 17-18): Paul is excited about what Christ is doing (1 Corinthians 3:5-9). The word “praise” in Hebrew (Hallal) means to brag on or rave about God. We as people can do nothing apart from God (John 15:5; Acts 17:25; Colossians 1:16-17). The power of God is seen in the Gospel to bring men and women to obedience to God. Paul showed this in word and deed (Romans 1:16; Colossians 3:17).

“Nor is He (God) served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.” (Acts 17:25)

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” (Colossians 3:17)

- (v. 19): The confirmation of being an apostle was signs and wonders (2 Corinthians 12:12). God did these works through them to confirm His message until the New Testament was completed (Hebrews 2:3-4). From Jerusalem to Illyricum was 1400 miles. Paul was all in with the gospel.

“The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works.” (2 Corinthians 12:12)

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Worship: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (Sovereign Grace Music) Jesus Thank You (Sovereign Grace Music)
He Will Hold Me Fast (Norton Hall Band) **Closing Song:** Christ is Mine Forevermore (City Alight)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

“It (our great salvation) was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His will.” (Hebrews 2:3-4)

- (v. 20-21): The word “ambition” is a compound word in the Greek (love + honor). Out of love for Christ, Paul wanted His name to be honored (Matthew 6:9; Acts 4:12; Revelation 5:12; Romans 12:1-2). Paul wanted to go where no one else had gone with the gospel. He was relentless with the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:10-11). He knew that the means of people being saved was the proclamation of the gospel (Romans 10:14-17).

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” (Revelation 5:12)

“...I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.” (1 Corinthians 15:10-11)

Announcements:

- **MEMBERS MEETING:** We are having a Members Meeting ***TONIGHT*** immediately following the worship service, to discuss the 2022 church budget. If you are a church member we encourage you to stay for this meeting!
- **FRIENDSGIVING:** We will be having our annual Friendsgiving Dinner together on Wednesday, November 24th, at 6:30pm, at the Decker Residence (517 Jackson Blvd). There are TWO sign-up lists on the back table, one to sign-up to bring main dishes, side dishes, and desserts; and one to sign-up if you plan on attending Friendsgiving!