



### **Sermon Discussion Questions: Romans 15-16**

#### **Romans 15:1-13**

1. Share a time you were particularly inspired by Jesus' example and sought to imitate Him. What was the story or characteristic of Jesus that inspired you and how did you try to follow Him?
2. Based on this passage, how would you describe Christ's attitude and commitment towards His people (including you)? How does that encourage you? challenge you?
3. How would you describe how Christ has welcomed you? What would it look like for you to welcome other believers - those like you and those completely unlike you - as Christ has welcomed you?
4. What do we learn from these verses about the importance of the Scriptures in our lives? What role do the Scriptures currently have in your life and why? Is there a next step you'd like to take to prioritize them more? How can your group pray for you in that endeavor?
5. Paul prays twice for the church in this passage (v. 5-6 and v. 13). What do you notice about his prayers? How do they connect with your own prayers right now?

#### **Romans 15:14-33**

1. What is something you're proud of that God has accomplished through you?
2. What was the work the Apostle Paul was grateful God accomplished through him? How do you think that fit with his unique gifting, training, and experience?
3. In what ways has God uniquely gifted you? How are you currently using your gifting, training, and experience to further the work of the gospel? Are there ways you could expand that effort?
4. Paul's ambition was to preach the gospel where Christ had not been named—to reach the unreached—and invites the church to pray for him. He also hopes to visit the church at Rome and be refreshed by them. Spend some time praying for our gospel partners who serve around the world. If you want information about how to more specifically pray for, support, or bring refreshment to them, contact Pastor Scott!

### **Romans 16:1-16**

1. Paul commends and greets many people in the church at Rome. Who is someone you particularly appreciate at Four Oaks and why?
2. Phoebe was likely the courier of this letter. The Greek word translated “servant” in verse 1 is elsewhere sometimes translated as “deacon.” What can we learn about the roles of women in church leadership from this passage? Share ways you have seen women uniquely bless our church (and others) through their service.
3. What would it look like for you to welcome brothers and sisters “in a way worthy of the saints and help them in whatever way they may need”? What would need to change in order to show this sort of hospitality? What’s a good next step for you?
4. While our inclination might be to race past this list of names, there is a great deal we can learn about the early church and Paul’s heart from this passage. Paul’s list includes Jews & Gentiles, those from high & low social strata, and men & women. What else do you notice? What does this teach us about God’s desire and design for his church?
5. Spend some time giving thanks for people in our church. Consider sending a note to let them know you appreciate them.

### **Romans 16:17-27**

1. Reflect back on our study of Romans. What have you most enjoyed? What have you been most challenged by? How have you grown in your convictions, character, and/or faith?
2. According to Paul, how important is it to understand “right doctrine?” Why?
3. Are there any big doctrinal questions that you have right now? Or are things about the Christian faith where you’re unsure if you know what the Bible teaches or if your beliefs align with the Bible’s? If so, what are they and what would it look like to honestly pursue answers?
4. Go back and re-read Romans 1:5-6 & 1:16-17. What is similar and different to Paul’s closing words in 16:25-27? Why do you think Paul repeats himself? Why do you think he includes some differences in his doxology?
5. Spend some time praying for unbelievers—that the eternal God would bring about their obedience of faith. In addition, pray for our gospel partners who are bringing the gospel to other nations.