



April 26, 2026

The Christ Life

Romans 15: 1-7

Romans 15 continues Paul's teaching from chapter 14 on Christian liberty and responsibility. Our lives are not shaped by personal preference but by the example of Jesus and the truth of God's Word. As Paul reminds us, *"the kingdom of God is... righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit"* (14:17).

Believers are called to live with genuine love and concern for one another. In this passage, Paul emphasizes that Jesus is our model, and Scripture is our source of strength and encouragement.

Key thought: Jesus is our example, studying and applying God's Word enables us to persevere, to be encouraged to live like Him.

1. We Do Not Live to Please Ourselves (15:1–3)

Paul consistently points to Jesus as the ultimate example of selflessness (vv. 3, 7). The church should be marked by mutual care and consideration—not shallow people-pleasing, but Christlike love that seeks lasting good.

- A crucified life – "to bear" the weaknesses of others
- A constructive life – acting "for his good, to his edification"

In verse 3, Paul quotes Psalm 69:9, portraying Christ as the righteous sufferer who bore reproach for others.

2. We Live to Please Christ (15:3–4)

- The Example of the Savior (v. 3) – The Living Word

Jesus did not please Himself. His life reflects humility, sacrifice, and obedience (see John 1:1–5, 14; Philippians 2:5–11).



- The Encouragement of Scripture (v. 4) – The Written Word

God’s Word equips and strengthens believers in three key ways:

- Comprehensive Value – All Scripture is useful for instruction
- Timeless Relevance – God’s truth applies across all cultures and generations
- Practical Application – Applying Scripture builds endurance and confidence

“All Scripture is inspired by God...so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16–17)

3. We Should Strive for Unity (15:5–7)

Christian unity is both a gift from God and a responsibility of believers.

- v. 5 – Same Mind
Unity comes from God and requires the mind of Christ.
- v. 6 – Same Voice
Unity leads to unified worship and glorifying God together.
- v. 7 – Same Love
“Receive one another” just as Christ received us.

Key Truths About Unity

- God is the source – He gives endurance and encouragement
- Christ is the model – Unity is shaped by His humility
- God is the goal – Unity results in His glory

True unity reflects patience, love, and mutual care.



Conclusion

Spiritual growth comes through engaging with God's Word. It strengthens us to persevere and shapes us to become more like Jesus.

Practical Steps:

- Meditate on the Word
- Study the Word
- Pray the Word
- Memorize the Word
- Obey the Word

When we follow Christ's example and apply Scripture daily, we grow in endurance, encouragement, and unity—bringing glory to God.