Home Group Notes
Week of November 8, 2026
ALIVE! Through Faith in Jesus Christ
Romans 15

INTRODUCTION

The good news of Romans 1-11 is that God has made a way for all peoples to be in a right relationship with God. Paul summed it up: "Just as you, who were at one time disobedient to God, [you] have now received mercy." Then, in chapter twelve, Paul wrote, " I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable worship." In this week's chapter (15), Paul is continuing to reveal what it looks like to live as a sacrifice to God – to trust and obey Him in our relationships with people. This chapter could be summarized as follows:

- Vs. 1-6: Each of us should aim to live to please our neighbors for their good, to build them up by following the example of Christ.
- 7-13: We are to accept and receive all people, all races/nations, following God's plan found throughout Scriptures and we do this by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 14-21: The apostle Paul has seen God do this as he traveled and proclaimed the good news throughout the Gentile world.
- 22-32: Paul asked the church to pray for him and his ministry as he planned to continue his ministry in new regions.

YOUR TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD IN HIS WORD

Children are focused on their own happiness. So are most of us. Because of the work of God, we can change. What are some of the changes that God has brought about in how you view the people in your world? What or whom did God use to change your attitude and perspective?

Read Romans 15:1-6. What are we commanded to do? How is Christ our example? And if we follow His example, what would this accomplish?

Verse 7-13 is our starting place of this 'others' attitude.

What were the Jews supposed to do but failed?

What is the picture given in verses 9-13 had the Jews completed their mission?

Reread Paul's calling to the Roman church in verse 16. How is this now our mission?

How was Paul and his team's ministry helping to fulfill this mission? (16-18)

What stands out to you in Paul's travel plans to expand the ministry to the world? (22-32)

GROUP DISCUSSION OF HOW WE CAN APPLY GOD'S WORD

The idea of living to "build up" others is a challenge to our 'natural' self. What do we know from Scripture that can bring about this change? (2)

What does it look like to accept one another "as Christ accepted you?" (7) What keeps us from doing this with all people?

Reread Paul's calling to the Roman church in verse 16. How is this now our mission?

Reread verses 22-33. What did it take for Paul and his many friends to take on this ministry throughout the world?

What would it look like for us to continue this ministry of building-up others in our daily lives? What would it require of us?