

“THE GOD OF ENDURANCE & ENCOURAGEMENT”

Romans 15:1-7

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. How are the strong to respond to the weak? (vv. 1-2, 5-7)

“strong”

“to bear with the failings of the weak”

“and not to please ourselves”

“for his good, to build him up.”

“you may with one voice glorify the God and Father...”

“welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you”

“the glory of God”

The gospel calls us to _____ and _____.

Mark 8:34

Galatians 6:2

Philippians 2:3-4

“The stronger, then, any one is in Christ, the more bound he is to bear with the weak.”

-John Calvin

“They do not realize that their strength is given them in order that it may be used to help others.”

-Leon Morris

“For a person without a grasp of the gospel, differences of opinion and practice are huge and insurmountable. But if we grasp justification, that we are accepted in spite of our deficiencies and flaws, we will be enabled to accept other despite their deficiencies and flaws.”

-Tim Keller

II. What reason does Paul give to edify & unite? (vv. 3, 7)

“For Christ did not please himself”

“The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me”

Christ _____ & _____ for our edification & unity.

Genesis 3

Psalms 69:9

Philippians 2:5-11

“This seems to indicate that Christian unity is unity in Christ, that the person of Jesus Christ himself is the focus of our unity, and that therefore the more we agree with him and about him, the more we will agree with one another.”

-John Stott

“God’s glory was promoted when Christ received us sinners, and it is further advanced when we who are by nature sinners and wrapped up in our own concerns instead receive our brothers and sisters in Christ with warmth and love.”

-Leon Morris

III. How do we get the strength to follow the example of Christ? (vv. 4-6)

“whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction”

“through endurance & through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope”

“May the God of endurance and encouragement”

“live in such harmony with one another.

“with one voice glorify “

Instruction → Endurance & encouragement → hope → unity → worship

God provides endurance & encouragement thru the _____.

Lamentations 3:23

1 Thessalonians 6:14-15

“For God continues to speak through what he has spoken.”

-John Stott

BIG IDEA: The God of endurance & encouragement provides all we need for edification & unity.

Digging Deeper:

1. When do you struggle to bear with failings & edify? Why?
2. Who do you struggle to welcome? Why?
3. How does the gospel help you overcome those barriers?
4. Tell someone how, when & why God welcomed you in Christ?
5. Do you find your time in the Scriptures encouraging or discouraging? Why? *(if discouraging, set up an appointment with the pastor)*