



ROMANS CHAPTER 15 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What do you think the phrase “look out for number one” means? Do you agree or disagree with it? Why?
- Do you consider yourself to be an easily irritable person? What things most get on your nerves?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Romans 15:1-33)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Romans 15:1-7

- In what ways do you think verses 1 & 2 run contrary to how the world and society function today? How do you think you are currently doing living verses 1 & 2 out in your own life? What does this practically look like in your life?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

- Notice that Paul references Jesus Christ as the ultimate example of not pleasing Himself in both attitude and action. Read Philippians 2:5-11 and consider why it is important to recognize that Jesus didn't live for Himself in both attitude and action.
 - Jesus could have very easily just gone through the motions and done the "right things" but His attitude, His thought patterns, the surrendering of His whole self to the Father is what allowed Him to live in freedom but also in service to all those around Him.
 - Do you find it more difficult to surrender your attitudes and perspectives to Jesus or your actions? Why?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

- Why do you think verses 5-6 are in the form of a prayer regarding Paul's discussion of Christians being like-minded toward and with each other?
 - Paul understands that this isn't going to happen simply because of more and more human effort and understanding. Ultimately, being like-minded toward and with each other is the work of God taking place in individuals who are making decisions to surrender their whole being to the Lord.
 - In what ways do you need to surrender to the Lord more fully in your relationships with your brothers and sisters in Christ?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Romans 15:8-21

- In this section of text, Paul is highlighting the work that God has done in him for the benefit of both the Jews and Gentiles. It wasn't about God loving a certain group of people more than another group.

- In what ways are you currently loving people who are nothing like you? In what ways do the diversity of your friendships and relationships reflect the diversity of the kingdom of God and the body of Christ?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Romans 15:22-32

- Paul had plans to visit the church in Rome and this did happen, but he visited the church in Rome as a prisoner, which afforded him the opportunity to preach the Gospel in ways that he didn't anticipate.
 - In what ways do you allow God to wreck your plans to more fully carry out what He has for you?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Romans chapter 16)

ROMANS CHAPTER 15 (STUDENT)

Romans 15:1-7

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- Notice that Paul references Jesus Christ as the ultimate example of not pleasing Himself in both attitude and action. Read Philippians 2:5-11 and consider why it is important to recognize that Jesus didn't live for Himself in both attitude and action.
 - Do you find it more difficult to surrender your attitudes and perspectives to Jesus or your actions? Why?

- Why do you think verses 5-6 are in the form of a prayer regarding Paul's discussion of Christians being like-minded toward and with each other?
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