



Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

 Note: I have added pronunciation 'helps' to aid in pronouncing some of the more difficult names within this chapter. I am not attempting to provide a pronunciation key to the ancient dialect. However, I am hopeful the 'helps' will provide common pronunciation when reading some of these more difficult names.

Paul the Minister to the Gentiles

¹⁴ I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge, and competent to instruct one another.

Q1. Why do you a student of the Bible care about God's Book?

Q2. What does it mean "competent to instruct one another"? (Does it include teaching and correcting? Whom?)

Acts 17:11 [NIV-1984]

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Q3. Does the phrase "instruct one another" mean that we are to lecture people, like a preacher?

Yes? }
No? } Why?


James 3:1 [NIV-1984]

Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Q4. What would build-up your knowledge and competency?

Lesson 24: Romans 15:14-33 & 16:1-27

Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

¹⁵ I have written you quite boldly on some points, as if to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Q5. What does “sanctified” mean?

John 17:14-26 [NIV-1984]

¹⁴ [Jesus Prays for His Disciples] "I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify [Greek hagiozo: set apart for sacred use or make holy] them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

²⁰ [Jesus Prays for All Believers] "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³ I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

²⁴ "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

²⁵ "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

¹⁷ Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God.

Q6. In what ways (examples) did Paul serve the LORD?

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Q7. In what ways (examples) do you serve the LORD?

James 2:14-17 [NIV-1984]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ¹⁵Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?

¹⁷In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done — ¹⁹by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit. So, from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum [il-leer-ĭ-come], I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. ²⁰It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

Q8. Are we as Believers to emulate Paul's desire to "not be building on someone else's foundation"?

Q9. What might be some of the "signs and miracles" to which Paul refers?

Acts 14:8-10, 19-20 [NIV-1984]

⁸In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. ⁹He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed ¹⁰and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk...

¹⁹Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

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Acts 28:1-10 [NIV-1984]

¹ [Ashore on Malta] Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. ² The islanders showed us unusual kindness. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. ³ Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴ When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, "This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live." ⁵ But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects. ⁶ The people expected him to swell up or suddenly fall dead, but after waiting a long time and seeing nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and said he was a god.


⁷ There was an estate nearby that belonged to Publius, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us to his home and for three days entertained us hospitably. ⁸ His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him. ⁹ When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured. ¹⁰ They honored us in many ways and when we were ready to sail, they furnished us with the supplies we needed.

²¹ Rather, as it is written: "Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand." [Isaiah 52:15]

Q10. Jesus (including Paul) frequently quotes Scripture from the Old Testament. Why?

Isaiah 52:13-15 [NIV-1984]

¹³ See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. ¹⁴ Just as there were many who were appalled at him – his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness – ¹⁵ so will he sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.


 A commentary to Isaiah 52:13-15: "Here begins that wonderful, minute, and faithful description of the office, character, and glory of the Messiah, which has . . . [convicted] . . . many of the most hardened unbelievers. Christ is Wisdom itself; in the work of our redemption there appear[s] the wisdom of God in a mystery. Those that saw him [the crucified Jesus], said, 'Surely, never [did a] man look . . . so miserable: never was [a] sorrow like . . . his sorrow.' But God highly exalted him. That shall be discovered by the gospel of Christ, which could never be told in any other way. And Christ having once shed his blood for sinners, its power still continues. May all opposers see the wisdom of ceasing from their opposition, and be made partakers of the blood of sprinkling, and the baptism of the Holy [Spirit]; obeying him, and praising his salvation." [©1706, *Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible* by Matthew Henry; <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/isaiah/52-15.htm>]

Q11. Does the Holy Spirit have a role in Paul's thought which was captured in verse 21? What might that role be?


Yes? }
No? } What?

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Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

The Holy Spirit

 The following verses describe some of the work performed by the Holy Spirit and, perhaps, these passages will also reveal a bit about Him. I suppose I am an oddity in that I have struggled with understanding the work and character of the Holy Spirit – the third member of The Trinity. I prayerfully ask that you read through these passages and see if the Holy Spirit reveals Himself to you in a way that is clearer than ever before.

John 14:26 [NIV-1984]

[Jesus again introduced the Holy Spirit to His disciples:]

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Ephesians 1:13-14 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, as his writing was guided by the Holy Spirit, wrote this astounding promise:]

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 4:30-32 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, he wrote this warning:]

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Jude 1:20 [NIV-1984]

[Jude is the half-brother of Jesus. Per commentator Charles Ellicott: 'pray in the Holy Spirit' " means that we pray in His strength and wisdom: He moves our hearts and directs our petitions." ©about 1880, Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers, edited by Charles J. Ellicott. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/jude/1-20.htm>]

But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:26–27 [NIV-1984]

[In his Letter to the Romans, Paul described the Holy Spirit's intercession for us. Such an important promise!]

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Titus 3:4-7 [NIV-1984]

[Paul wrote several letters to his assistants in which he encouraged, corrected, and shared wisdom. This is an excerpt from Paul's Letter to Titus. The Holy Spirit, as The Lord directs, will wash and renew a saint – i.e., a Believer – you and me!]

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

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John 3:5–8 [NIV-1984]

[An excerpt from the Gospel of John in which Jesus describes the saving work of the Holy Spirit. See Ephesians 1:13-14 (↑)]

⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So, it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

1 Thessalonians 1:4-6 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, he observes the power of the Gospel message and the impact of the Holy Spirit upon those who believe:]

⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 13:14 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians, he mentions in an offhanded way that the Holy Spirit instills, promotes, and encourages fellowship:]

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Romans 15:13 [NIV-1984]

[Again, Paul observes "*the power of the Holy Spirit*" within Believers:]

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:16–18 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's Letter to the Galatians, he admonishes Believers to "*live by the Spirit*" so that they will follow the example of Christ Jesus, and not the way of the world.]

¹⁶ So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. ¹⁷ For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

Galatians 5:19–26 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's Letter to the Galatians, he lists the "*acts of the sinful nature*" contrasted to those characteristics listed as the "fruit of the Spirit". We, who believe, can attain the "fruit of the Spirit" through prayer, obedience, Bible Study, action, and perseverance. We, who believe, are lifelong 'works-in-progress' and will be finally free of the proclivity to sin, when at the death of our physical body our soul is no longer bound to it.]

¹⁹ The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

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Ephesians 5:17-21 [NIV-1984]

[Paul advises the Ephesians (and we, who believe) to “*be filled with the Spirit*” and then provides a list of examples to help them (and us) to “*be filled*”. The student might ask, “How am I to be filled with the Holy Spirit?” We, who believe, can obtain a greater filling through prayer, obedience, Bible Study, action, and perseverance. We are God’s hands, feet, and voice in this world and He wants us to advance His Gospel message to nonbelievers person-by-person as we fulfill Jesus’s Words of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).]

¹⁷ Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. ¹⁹ Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:3-11 [NIV-1984]

[Paul has stated that the Holy Spirit takes from God and gives to a Believer. In this passage, Paul writes how the Holy Spirit gives and enables specific God-given talents to individual Believers. Just as the human body is comprised of many different body-parts, so, too, is the Church of Christ Jesus. The Church relies upon preachers, teachers, out-reachers, healers, encouragers, listeners, pray-ers, singers, musicians, music directors, janitors, administrators, and . . . the list goes on-and-on.]

³ Therefore, I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

John 15:26 [NIV-1984]

[An excerpt from the Gospel of John in which Jesus promises that He will send the Holy Spirit, who will “*testify about me*” (i.e., whisper into the hearts of Believers to confirm Biblical Truths).]

“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.”

John 16:7-14 [NIV-1984]

[An excerpt from the Gospel of John in which Jesus again promises that He will send the Holy Spirit to them and then further explains the work that the Holy Spirit will perform.]

⁷ “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; ¹⁰ in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

¹² “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.”

2 Thessalonians 2:6–10 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul’s Second Letter to the Thessalonians, he promises that the Holy Spirit restrains Satan’s impact in this world until the time foretold in the Book of Revelation:]

⁶ And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. ⁷ For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will

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overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. ⁹ The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs, and wonders, ¹⁰ and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹ For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie ¹² and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

1 Corinthians 2:10–11 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, he discusses the power of the Holy Spirit and the wondrous things of God that He shares with us:]

⁹ However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" — ¹⁰ but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. ¹¹ The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 2:12–13 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, he writes that the Holy Spirit empowers us, who believe, to "*understand (and speak) what God has freely given us*":]

¹² We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.

1 Corinthians 2:14 [NIV-1984]

[In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, he warns that the unbeliever does not accept the Holy Spirit and, therefore, "*(cannot) accept (or understand) the things that come from the Spirit of God*":]

The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

²² This is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.


Romans 1:13 [NIV-1984]

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

Q12. Did Paul want to build on the work of others? Or did he want to sow the seeds of the Gospel of Jesus on new, unplanted soil? Or was there another more compelling reason(s)?


Acts 16:6-7 [International Children's Bible (ICB)]

⁶ Paul and the men with him went through the areas of Phrygia and Galatia. The Holy Spirit did not let them preach the Good News in Asia. ⁷ When they came near the country of Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia. But the Spirit of Jesus did not let them.

 The Holy Spirit guided Paul on his journeys and orchestrated his travel to visit those people-groups to whom The Trinity wanted Paul and his disciples to minister and share the Gospel message.

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Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

Paul's Plan to Visit Rome

²³ But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to see you, ²⁴ I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to visit you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.

Q13. Paul had four missionary journeys, did Paul ever travel to Spain?

Yes? }
No? } Why?



Q14. Since faithful Paul's travel-plans to Spain were not allowed by God, should we take that as an example and not plan ahead as we serve the Lord?


Yes? }
No? } Why?

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Q15. From Paul's remarks in verse 23, do you think that the Church of Christ Jesus was growing?

²⁵ Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the saints there. ²⁶ For Macedonia [Mass-ě-don-ŷ-ăh] and Achaia [Ă-kāy-ŷ-ăh] were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.

Q16. Why did the Jerusalem church need help from outlying churches?

 A comment from Albert Barnes: *the poor among the saints in Jerusalem*: "The Christians who were in Judea were exposed to special trials. They were condemned by the Sanhedrin, opposed by the rulers, and persecuted by the people; [e.g., see Acts 8:1, and Acts 12:1]. Paul sought not only to relieve them by this contribution, but also to promote fellow-feeling between them and the Gentile Christians. And "this" circumstance would tend much to enforce what he had been urging in Romans 14-15 on the duty of kind feeling between the Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity. Nothing tends so much to wear off prejudice, and to prevent unkind feeling in regard to others, as to set about some purpose "to do them good," or to unite "with" them in doing good." [©1834, *Notes on the Bible* by Albert Barnes. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/romans/15-26.htm>]

²⁷ They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings.

Q17. What was one of the "Jews' spiritual blessings"?

Q18. Why did outlying churches "owe it to them"?

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²⁸ So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this fruit, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way. ²⁹ I know that when I come to you, I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ. ³⁰ I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. ³¹ Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed.

Q19. (Verse 28) Sometimes when we study the Bible verse-by-verse we lose continuity between verses. So. What is the task? What is the fruit?

Task?

Fruit?

Q20. (Verses 30-32) Was prayer important to Paul?

Yes?
No? } Why?


Q21. Since the Bible states that Paul was imprisoned in Jerusalem and eventually transported to Rome as a prisoner, can we say that Paul and the Roman Believers, who read this letter, did not pray hard enough for Paul's situation?

Yes?
No? } Thoughts?

³³ The God of peace be with you all. Amen.

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Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

Romans, Chapter 16 – Personal Greetings

¹ I commend to you our sister Phoebe [Fee-bee], a servant of the church in Cenchrea [Sen-cree-a]. ² I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me.

³ Greet Priscilla [Pri-sill-ah] and Aquila [A-quill-ah], my fellow workers in Christ Jesus. ⁴ They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. ⁵ Greet also the church that meets at their house.

Greet my dear friend Epenetus [Epp-ĭ-net-us], who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.

⁶ Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you.

⁷ Greet Andronicus [An-drŏn-ĭ-cus] and Junias [June-ĭ-ahh-s], my relatives who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.

⁸ Greet Ampliatus [Am-plĭ-at-us], whom I love in the Lord.

⁹ Greet Urbanus [Ur-ban-us], our fellow worker in Christ, and my dear friend Stachys [Stay-kiss].

¹⁰ Greet Apelles [A-pell-us], tested and approved in Christ.

Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus [Airy-stŏb-you'll-us].

¹¹ Greet Herodion [Hair-ŏde-ĭ-ŏn], my relative.

Greet those in the household of Narcissus [Nār-sĭs-ĭs] who are in the Lord.

¹² Greet Tryphena [Try-fee-nah] and Tryphosa [Try-fŏe-săh], those women who work hard in the Lord.

Greet my dear friend Persis [Per-sĭs], another woman who has worked very hard in the Lord.

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¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too.

¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus [A-sin-crit-ŭs], Phlegon [Flēe-gŭn], Hermes [Hēr-mēez], Patrobas [Pă-trō-bās], Hermas [Her-măz], and the brothers with them.

¹⁵ Greet Philologus [File-oh-log-us], Julia, Nereus [Ner-ē-us] and his sister, and Olympas [Oh-Līm-pŭs], and all the saints with them.

¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings.

Q22. Do you think that any of the people mentioned in verses 1-16 realized that their names were going to be recorded for all history?

Yes? }
No? } Why?

Q23. Did Paul use any words or phrases that you find curious... or a blessing... or a quality that you would like to emulate?

Yes? }
No? } Which ones?

Q24. What do you think was Paul's basic motive for mentioning all of these people in his Letter to the Romans?

¹⁷ I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. ¹⁸ For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery, they deceive the minds of naive people.


Q25. We've talked about this before. Today, must we be on-guard against people with these traits and/or messages?

Yes? }
No? } Why?

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Q26. (Verse 17) Can you think of any examples today that would illustrate “obstacles... contrary to the teaching”?

Day 6

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¹⁹ Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

Q27. Why does Paul advise us to be “innocent about . . . evil”? Shouldn’t we know about the world in which we live?

Matthew 10:16 [NIV-1984] [Jesus told His disciples:]

I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

^{20a} The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. ^{20b} The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

Q28. Does this verse (20a) remind you of any other verse(s)?

Genesis 3:14-15 [NIV-1984]

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he

Lesson 24: Romans 15:14-33 & 16:1-27

will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

²¹ Timothy, my fellow worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius [Lūe-shŭs], Jason, and Sosipater [Sauce-ĭ-pă-ter], my relatives.

²² I, Tertius [Tersh-ĭ-us], who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord.

²³ Gaius [Guy-us], whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings. Erastus [Eh-răst-us], who is the city's director of public works, and our brother Quartus [Quart-us] send you their greetings. ²⁴ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you. Amen.

²⁵ Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him — ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Q29. What is the most memorable takeaway from our study of Romans?

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