



Romans Part 13—Becoming More Beautiful, Part 2

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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

When we are reflecting the beauty of Jesus, the spiritually-hungry see Him.

[Romans 15:20-22]

It 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. Rather, as it is written:

"Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand." This is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.

Ways to Reflect His Beauty—

1. Make the gospel clear and keep it the main thing

The Gospel is not just a salvation message; it is a way of life.

2. Bear the weight of weakness

[Romans 15:1-2, AMP]

Now we who are strong [in our convictions and faith] ought to **patiently put up with the weaknesses of those who are not strong**, and not just please ourselves. Let each one of us make it a practice to please his neighbor for his good, to build him up spiritually. For even Christ didn't live to please himself.

Please / Greek **ar-es'-ko** = to accommodate the opinions and interest of others

Sometimes your beautiful is someone else's pitiful.

[Galatians 6:2-3]

Carry **(bear)** each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ. If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.

3. Adjust your attitude to 3rd Place

True humility is considering others around you more than yourself. Every time you serve, beauty is reflected.

[Romans 15:5]

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you **the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had...**

You were not designed to focus on yourself; you were created to “take up the towel” and be a servant.

[Philippians 2:5-11]

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges and **took the humble position of a servant.**

[Romans 12:10]

Be devoted to one another with authentic brotherly affection and **give preference to one another in honor.**

[Philippians 2:3, AMP]

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit but with an attitude of humility, being neither arrogant nor self-righteous, **regard others as more important than yourselves.**

4. Accept people like Jesus did

[Romans 15:7]

Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

<p>Accept = proslambanō: to walk with as a companion, to receive into one's home, to grant one access to one's heart</p>

FOR MONDAY—

1. Consider ways to reflect Jesus in your day-to-day life. Make adjustments in your practices to stay on-mission and help those around you see more of Him.

2. Think of one person in your world that is a complete mess and needs the gospel. Take time to pray for that individual or family right now.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What are some “mission critical” things for you, your friends, or your family?
2. How is Romans 15 like a “reminder chapter” from Paul? What are some things that he covers?
3. Why does the Church exist? What is its primary mission? Why do we need to preach the gospel where Christ has never been heard?
4. When we face hindrances or hurdles in reaching those far from Christ, what perspective do we need to take?
5. What are areas where we need someone else’s help? Does this apply to both strengths and weaknesses?
6. How accommodating are you when someone disagrees with you? How do we make the Gospel clear and the main thing?
7. Who are you posting up next to who can bear your burdens on your weak days? When has someone chosen to bear your burdens? What did that look like?
8. What does adjusting your attitude to 3rd place look like? How might that be a shift of mentality for you?
9. How does the story of Zaccheus show us God’s heart and priority for the broken? How did Jesus accept and associate with Him, and what was He risking? [Luke 19]
10. Why is it important to consider the order when embracing people with the grace and love of Jesus: Behave, Belong, and Believe?