

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE
A Study in the Book of Romans

God's Grace to Us Romans 16

"To the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ." Romans 16:27

Read Romans 16:1–16.

1. What do we learn about Phoebe, who is delivering this letter to Rome? (v. 1)

How does Paul ensure that she is provided for upon her arrival? (v. 2)

2. Verses 3 through 15 consist of Paul's greetings to individuals in Rome. What glimpses are we given into the life of a Christian in the early church?
3. What characteristics does Paul use to praise and honor people? How does this encourage you?
4. Notice the number of times that Paul uses the phrases "in Christ" and "in the Lord." What is the significance of this?
5. How does your own connection to other believers compare with Paul's?

What are some concrete ways that you could deepen your bond to other Christians?

Read Romans 16:17–20.

6. a. What warning does Paul give in verse 17?

b. By this warning and similar ones as in Galatians 1:7–9, is Paul contradicting his earlier exhortations in Romans 14:1, 3 and 15:1, 2, 7? Why or why not?

7. What are some characteristics of false teachers? (v. 18; 1 Tim. 6:3-5; Gal. 1:6-7)

How does their motivation compare with Paul's? (Review Rom.15:17-20.)

8. How can we be "wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil" (v. 19) or as The Message puts it: "make sure that every 'good' thing is the real thing"? (v. 19)

Read Romans 16:21-27.

9. What things do verses 21-23 tell us about Paul's companions?

10. In verses 25-27 what does Paul say about God? About the gospel?

11. What mystery is Paul referring to in verse 25? (Rom. 11:25; Eph. 3:4-6)

12. According to verses 26 and 27, what is the ultimate goal of this mystery?

Reflect on Romans.

13. What are some of the lessons the Holy Spirit has taught you through your study of Romans?
Consider sharing one of these at our next meeting.