**Romans 15**

**Key Thought:** Treat each other in the church the way Jesus has treated you.

Final instructions for getting along in the church: (15:1-6)

* Those who are strong must always seek the good of those who are weak.
* We must seek the good of our neighbors.
* Our goal is to build (edify) each other up.
* Jesus is our example for how to treat others. Even Jesus bore the insults of others for our sake.
* One benefit of studying Scripture is it gives us endurance and encouragement that leads us to hope.
* Endurance = the ability to press on during the tough times.
* Encouragement = the desire to press on during the tough times.
* A powerful prayer. May God give us the same attitude of mind as Jesus towards others.
* In a healthy church, everyone is unified in giving glory to God. This is our source of unity.

**Accepting the Gentiles (and those who different from you) (vs 7-13)**

* Be like Jesus! Accept those who are different from you, just as Jesus has done.
* Jesus came to serve both the Jews and Gentiles.
* Bringing the Gentiles into the Church is a part of God’s plan.
* A beautiful benediction. “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.”

1. God
2. Hope
3. Joy
4. Peace
5. Trust
6. Overflow
7. Power
8. Holy Spirit

**Personal Notes (vs 14-29)**

* Three marks of spiritual maturity: goodness, knowledge, competent to instruct others.
* Paul’s purpose and mission in life was to preach Jesus to the Gentiles.
* His entire focus was to preach Christ…period.
* His ambition was to preach to those who had not yet heard of Jesus. That was why he had yet not gone to Rome.
* Paul planned to visit Rome on his way to Spain.