

Next Week's Bible Study: Romans 15:5-12

Summary of Text: *Paul teaches us to accept one another as Christ has accepted us.*

Our Doctrine Taught in this Passage: *Biblical Community:* We fellowship with other Christians in genuine biblical community to accomplish God's purpose for our lives, to hold one another accountable and to meet each other's needs as we journey together for the purposes of the Gospel. We believe that we were created to live and thrive within relationship and that it is within the context of biblical community and the study of His word that we come to a better understanding of the character of Christ and His will and work in our lives.

Memory Verse: Romans 15:7 - Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Monday: Read Romans 15:5-12. What are your impressions of this passage? What does it mean to accept one another? How does Christ accept us? Reflect on the meaning of this passage. What does our sin and rebellion do to our relationship with God? How deeply are we affected by our sin? What did God have to do to accept us?

Tuesday: Read the passage again. What does it mean that the Jews and Gentiles are united? How does this happen? What does Christ do for us on the cross? What does this teach us about how we are to accept one another?

Wednesday: Read the passage. Christ accomplished our salvation by serving and He did it for the glory of God. How does this motivate us to serve and accept one another? Is your life given for God's glory? If you lived your life for God's glory and not for your own glory, how would that change the way you accept others? If we see others the way Christ sees them, how does it change things?

Thursday: Read and memorize the memory verse. How does our acceptance of one another bring praise to God? How is God glorified in our relationships? Why is it important for Christians to accept others? Is there someone in your life you are not accepting? Allow the Scripture and the witness of the Holy Spirit to speak to you about this.

Friday: Spend time in prayer. Read the passage. Quote the memory verse. How does this teaching bring us hope?

Saturday: Read the passage again. Meditate on its meaning. Write down any new thoughts you have regarding this teaching. Let the Scripture challenge and even change your heart.

Sunday: Make today a day of rest and worship. Pray for the right attitude and an open heart and mind today. Come to church.

Today's Topic: PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

Text: James 5:13-16

Discussion: Ask group members to look up and read James 5:13-16.

- ▶ Why is it important for us to pray for one another?
- ▶ How does praying change things?
- ▶ How do prayer and praise go together?
- ▶ In what ways are we changed by praying for one another?
- ▶ Oil represents both medical healing and the work of the Holy Spirit. Why is this significant?
- ▶ How does praying for one another make us closer?
- ▶ What should we expect from our prayers?
- ▶ How does Christ pray for us? Read Romans 8:31-37.

Group Exercise: Break into groups of two or three people and ask each other the CAUSE questions:

- ▶ Community: Have I invested the proper time in my most important relationships this week? How can I do better?
- ▶ Attitude: Did my life reflect verbal and emotional integrity this week? How can I do better?
- ▶ Understanding: Have I done my Bible readings this week?
- ▶ Spiritual Gifts: Have I used my giftedness to give life to others this week? How can I improve on this?
- ▶ Evangelism: Who is in my life that I am seeking to love to Christ?

Application:

- ▶ Do the daily devotionals. Ask God to show you how to seek Him more effectively this week.
- ▶ Ask God to teach you the meaning of community at a deeper level in the coming weeks.

Prayer Needs

Hospital: Cody Sheets (Terrie Morris' son); Gordon Gibson (Jan); Orbie Wall (Terry Wall's father)

Grieving: The families of Carl Hardzog (Carla Britt's father); Layla Peterson (infant of Drew & Kristina); Jimmy Corley (Joyce); Jerry Laurent (Ken Minick's sister); Margaret Willey (Jennifer Brantley's mother); Beverly Tauch (George); Oletha McCoy (former member)