

Mutually Encouraged

Followers of Jesus need to admit that we need each other. After weeks of not being able to gather, today we appreciate our freedom to Fellowship & why it matters so much.

onlinenotes

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teachingnotes

* All Scripture is from CSB (Christian Standard Bible) unless otherwise noted.

Catch the Context Paul did not plant the Roman church. In fact, Paul had not been able to visit the Romans before this writing. This church was likely launched as Jews who had trusted Jesus during the Pentecost revival (Acts 2) returned to Rome, shared the gospel, and started the church there. This church had been a bright light in Rome and beyond.

Applauding the Church

Romans 1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you because **the news of your faith is being reported in all the world**.

The faith of this church wasn't dependent on Paul, whom they had never met. **Their faith was in Jesus** - a faith that was demonstrated by their works and their words.

Oh that this would be true of CHURCH of MADISON - **that news of our faith would be reported in all the world!**

Praying for the Church

Romans 1:9-10 God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in telling the good news about his Son—that I **constantly mention you**, always asking **in my prayers** that if it is somehow in God's will, I may now at last succeed in coming to you.

Paul had been **in prayer** for these precious people, asking God to give Him the opportunity to be with these brothers and sisters.

But for Paul it was more than just being together: A synopsis of Paul's prayers from his many New Testament letters includes these elements: Paul is praying for them...

- 1) to know who God is & what God says
- 2) to obey what God says
- 3) to grow in spiritual maturity alongside other believers
- 4) to share the good news of Jesus with our lost world

Encouraging the Church

Romans 1:11-12 For I want very much to see you, so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, **to be mutually encouraged by each other's faith**, both yours and mine.

Paul expected his time in Rome to refill his spiritual tank, as they **mutually encouraged** each other's faith. Paul wanted to encourage *THEM* (teaching, training, serving with them). Paul wanted them to encourage *HIM!* Christians grow weary and need to be reminded that their work is worth it.



🕒 **PRAY FOR OUR NATION** - that the LIGHT of JESUS would shine bright during this dark time!

🕒 **MARCH FOR UNITY NEXT SUNDAY AFTERNOON**. More info coming this week.

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- * Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Justin** (704-618-6144), **Christy** (673-9764), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- * Or call our **deacons & wives**: Steve & Debbie Bass (673-7952), Freddy & Joyce Howard (973-0047), Jere & Darlene Burnette (673-1888) , Fain & Linda Poppell (464-1282) , Jim & Derita Pinkard (229-834-4307), or Boss & Amelia Mulkey (673-1387).