

“Christian Ministry Exemplified”

Text: Romans 15:25-29

Scripture reading: II Corinthians 8:1-15

I. The minister’s exaltation – vv. 14-21 (previous study)

II. The minister’s anticipation – vv. 22-29

A) Paul’s personal perspective – vv. 22-24 (last week)

-I Pet. 4:10

B) Paul’s purposeful planning – vv. 25-29

1. A ministry _____ - vs. 25 (Gal. 4:28)

Evaluation and application: Am I this attentive to the saints? What informs my vision in ministry?

2. A ministry _____ - vv. 26-27
(Jas. 2:15-16; I Jn. 3:17-18; Gal. 2:10)

2a. _____ giving

Evaluation and application: Does my current love and generosity affirm the fellowship of the saints as Scripture describes here?

2b. _____ giving

Evaluation and application: Do I give eagerly? When was the last time that someone had to slow down my generosity?

2c. _____ giving (II Cor. 8:1-5)

Evaluation and application: Is this where my heart is? Am I driven by an indebtedness (obligation) to the will of God for what Christ has done for me?

3. A ministry _____ - vv. 28-29

Evaluation and application: Do I have this same view of my ministry? ...my presence on this earth? ...my service to others in this church? Am I able to say that my ministry to others is "Of Christ?"

"They are fools that fear to lose their wealth by giving, but fear not to lose themselves by keeping it."
-John Trapp; English theologian; 1601-1669

SERMON QUOTE:

2. A ministry _____ - vv. 26-27

2a. _____ giving

Leon Morris, on the word “*contribution*,”

“The term is the ordinary one for ‘fellowship’ and will indicate here that the money was not a soulless gift, but the outward expression of the deep love that binds Christian believers in one body, the church.”