

# SERMON NOTES:

VOL 4: Part 32: United in Hope: Living to Please Others

**BIG Idea:** We build true unity when truth grounds us and love moves us.

**Application:** Let your love be more than agreement—carry one another's burdens, follow Christ's example of humility, root yourself in Scripture, and let the Holy Spirit make you one in both heart and voice.

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## I. Bear the Burdens of Others (vv. 1–2)

**Romans 15:1-2 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup> Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up.

**Strength in the kingdom is not about what you can handle for yourself, it's about what you're willing to carry for someone else.**

**Galatians 6:2 (NIV)**

<sup>2</sup> Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

**Love builds up; it doesn't enable.**

**Strength carries; it doesn't compete.**

## II. Follow Christ's Example (v. 3)

**Romans 15:3 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup> For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me."

**Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

Christ bore our worst so we could bear with one another.

### III. Endure through Scripture (v. 4)

Romans 15:4 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup>For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

The Word doesn't just inform you; it transforms you.

Romans 5:3-5 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

When the Word roots you, hope renews you.

### IV. Glorify God Together (vv. 5–13)

Romans 15:5-13 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup>May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, <sup>6</sup>so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed <sup>9</sup>and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles;  
I will sing the praises of your name."

<sup>10</sup>Again, it says,

"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

<sup>11</sup>And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles;  
let all the peoples extol him."

<sup>12</sup>And again, Isaiah says,

“The Root of Jesse will spring up,  
one who will arise to rule over the nations;  
in him the Gentiles will hope.”

<sup>13</sup> 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.

**This is what unity looks like: truth that grounds us, love that moves us, and acceptance that embraces us.**

**John 17:20-23 (NIV) *Jesus Prays for All Believers***

<sup>20</sup> “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**Harmony isn’t the end goal—it’s the launchpad for mission.**

**When the church sings with one voice, the world hears one Gospel.**

**We build true unity when truth grounds us and love moves us.**

**Hope shines brightest where love puts others first.**