



COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

October 15, 2023

Romans 15:1-13

Big Idea: Christian Unity

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Recap

Verse 1: ought, bear and weak people

Ought; i.e. we are obliged and bound both by the law of God and nature.

Bear: to endure patiently, not to contend with

Weak people: weak in faith and knowledge, mistakes, and errors about things indifferent, misguided zeal.

“People may be won much more easily to a fuller faith by surrounding them with an atmosphere of love & consideration rather than by attacking them with a battery of criticism.”

(William Barclay)

“He bore the presumptuous sins of the wicked; we are called only to bear the failings of the weak. And should not we be humble, self-denying, and ready to consider one another, who are members one of another?” (Matthew Henry)

“Scripture is held out to us as our source for perseverance and encouragement to sustain our hope in the sometimes frustrating experiences of self-denial and love.” (John Piper)

What I learned Part 1:

1. Christian unity should be rooted in the study Scripture.

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. (1 Corinthians 1:10)

What I learned Part 2:

2. We should seek unity for the glory of God.

*My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 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. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—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.
(John 17:20-23)*

What I learned Part 3:

3. Christian unity is marked by Hope.

*Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.
(Colossians 3:9-11)*