

VGROUP STUDY GUIDE
"ROMANS-OFFENSE WINS CHAMPIONSHIPS"
ROMANS 1: 8-15
MAY 14, 2023

FOCAL POINT: In football, what is a huddle? What is the purpose of a huddle? How do you determine if the huddle was successful? In what ways could you say the church service is like a huddle? What is the purpose and how do you determine if the huddle was successful?

TEXT:

*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. **9** For God, whom I serve with my spirit in telling the good news about His Son, is my witness that I constantly mention you, **10** always asking in my prayers that if it is somehow in God's will, I may now at last succeed in coming to you. **11** For I want very much to see you, so I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, **12** that is, to be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. **13** Now I want you to know, brothers, that I often planned to come to you (but was prevented until now) in order that I might have a fruitful ministry among you, just as among the rest of the Gentiles. **14** I am obligated both to Greeks and barbarians, both to the wise and the foolish. **15** So I am eager to preach the good news to you also who are in Rome.*

In our text Paul determined it was time to go on offense with faith. It wasn't a time to kick back and observe. It was time to be engaged. He shared several ways to play offense with our faith.

Being public with our faith (v. 8)

1.The faith of the church in Rome was being reported all over the world. What was happening? Look up the Roman Emperor Claudius and see what he did to the Jewish people (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claudius%27_expulsion_of_Jews_from_Rome).

2.Read Acts 6: 11-14. What do you notice about Stephen and his faith?

3.How can we display our faith publicly? Why is it important for our faith to be displayed publicly? What are the reasons for being public about our faith? What makes you nervous about being public with your faith?

Encouraging one another (vv. 9-12)

1.How did Paul encourage the church in v. 9? Do you have a routine when it comes to praying? Share what it is.

2.Read v. 11. From this verse, how else did Paul want to encourage the church? Paul wrote most of the New Testament. He was a great theologian teaching the foundations of the faith. What are some of the basic foundations of the faith that encourage you and that you can use to encourage others?

3.What evidence do you see that demonstrates many followers of Christ don't know the basics about the faith?

Being goal oriented (vv. 13-15)

1.Notice it says Paul "planned" to come to Rome. His plan involved knowing what he was going to do and how he was going to encourage them. In v. 13 he was planning on having a fruitful ministry. Do you have a "plan" to have a fruitful ministry? If so, share it. If not, talk about some goals you can set to be fruitful in sharing your journey with Christ.

2.What is the purpose of the church? Read Matt. 28: 19-20. How can you engage to fulfill the mission Jesus gave His people?