



The Book of ROMANS

Chapter 15:14-33

“Our Christian Ministry & Mission!”

~ Three Insights to Christian Ministry and Missions:

- > INSIGHT #1 - OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO MINISTRY! (v14-21)
- > INSIGHT #2 - OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO GIVING AND MISSIONS! (v22-29)
- > INSIGHT #3 – OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO PRAYER AND SERVICE! (30-33)

> INSIGHT #1 - OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO MINISTRY! (v14-21)

(v14) Three keys to a successful ministry:

- KEY #1 - Be full of goodness – The word *good* is found 709 times in the Bible, “So be good for goodness sake!” Jesus said in Matthew 7:17-20 - *Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire* (Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:5-11; Revelation 21:1-8). *Therefore by their fruits you will know them.* (Galatians 5:16-22; Ephesians 5:9)

- KEY #2 - Be filled with all knowledge - 2 Timothy 2:15 - *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

Jude 3 - *I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.*

1 Peter 3:15 - *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear*

- KEY #3 – Be able to admonish (instruct) one another (Discipleship) – Jesus commands us in Matthew 28:19-20 - *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17 - *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine (what is right), for reproof (what is not right), for correction (how to get right), for instruction in righteousness (how to stay right), that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

(v15-21) Like Paul and every Christian ministry we must preach the gospel to the entire world - Mark 16:15-16 - "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

> INSIGHT #2 - OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO GIVING AND MISSIONS!
(v22-29)

(v22-24) FELLOWSHIP = DISCIPLESHIP - The Church should have a "great desire" to get together to "help" and "enjoy" one another.

(v25-29) The Church should minister the gospel and help the less fortunate saints throughout the world. Paul wanted to receive a contribution to help the poor saints in Jerusalem. The Church must understand the importance of giving, observe the Scriptural insight of the following article from *Christian Stewardship Magazine* by Brian Kluth, "This list of 10 reasons to give 10% or more to the Lord's work was written to encourage laity and clergy that this subject can be biblically and practically taught and caught! When believers are taught to make it a priority to give to God first, it will ultimately bring greater financial freedom and blessing into their personal lives and to the ministries they support."

~ **SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS FOR GIVING:**

(1) It is a tried and proven pattern of giving by godly people throughout the ages (regardless of cultures and income levels). Genesis 14:17-20, 28:16-22; Leviticus 27:30; Proverbs 3:9, 10; Malachi 3:7-15; Matthew 23:23

(2) It will help you revere God more in your life. Deuteronomy 14:23.

(3) It will bring God's wisdom and order to your finances and will help you harness the dragon of materialism. Matthew 6:19-21, 24-34; Luke 12:16-21; 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19; Ecclesiastes 5:10.

(4) It will serve as a practical reminder that God is the Owner of everything you have. 1 Chronicles 29:11-18; Psalm 24:1-2; Psalm 59:10-12; Haggai 2:8.

(5) It will allow you to experience God’s creative care and provisions in ways you would not otherwise experience. 1 Kings 17; Proverbs 3:9,10; Malachi 3:7-15; Haggai 1:4-11, 2:15-10; Luke 6:38; Deuteronomy 14:23; Proverbs 3:5,6; Malachi 3:8-10; Haggai 1:4-11, 2:15-19; 2 Corinthians 8:5.

(6) It will encourage your spiritual growth and trust in God. Deuteronomy 14:23; Proverbs 3:5,6; Malachi 3:8-10; Haggai 1:4-11, 2:15-19; 2 Corinthians 8:5.

(7) It will ensure you treasure in heaven. 1 Timothy 6:18, 19; Matthew 6:19,21; Hebrews 6:10; 3 John 8; 1 Samuel 30:22.

(8) It will strengthen the ministry, outreach, and stability of your local church. Acts 2:42-27, 4:32; 2 Corinthians 9:12,13.

(9) It will help provide the means to keep your pastor and missionaries in full-time Christian service. 1 Corinthians 9:9-11,14; 1 Timothy 5:17,18; 3 John 5-8; Philippians 4:15-19; Galatians 6:6; Luke 8:3; 2 Kings 4:8-10.

(10) It will help accomplish the building projects needed and renovations. 2 Chronicles 24:4-14; Exodus 35, 36; 2 Kings 12:2-16; 1 Chronicles 29:2-10; Ezekiel 1:4-6.”

~ *Those Who Give Most:* If you have ever heard someone vow, “If I were rich, I’d give away most of my money,” do not bank on it. The stats show that people with higher incomes give away a smaller percentage of their wealth. (*From Storm Shelter by Ron Blue*)

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>% GIVEN AWAY</u>
Under \$10,000	3.6%
\$10-19,999...	3.4%
\$20-29,999...	2.5%
\$30-39,999...	1.8%
\$40-49,999...	2.3%
\$50-74,999...	2.0%
\$75-99,999...	1.9%
\$100,000 and above.	2.5%

- J. Hudson Taylor said, "When God's work is done in God's way for God's glory, it will never lack God's supply."

> INSIGHT #3 – OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO PRAYER AND SERVICE!
(30-33)

> Three POWER POINTS IN PRAYER:

(1) Prayer Protects - *Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.* " (Matt 26:41)

(2) Prayer Provides - *But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.* (Matt 6:6)

(3) Prayer Propagates - *"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."* (Luke 10:2)

~ Finally, the Church is a place of SERVICE (v31); a place of JOY; a place of REFRESHING (v32); and a place of PEACE (v33).