

Romans 15:14-33, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - Full-Time or Part-Time.

Romans 15:14-33

Are all Christians in “full-time” ministry or just pastors and missionaries? Well, it depends on what you mean by full-time. Are you a full-time Christian? True Christianity is *not* supposed to be a part-time practice, but a lifestyle. And Christians are supposed to be a light to the world all the time (Mt. 5:14), with no on/off switch. Dear Christian, you may work 40 hrs/wk for a company, but you are called to work, live and shine for Jesus Christ 24/7. Hmm, that sounds more “full-time” than even your secular job – Something to pray about. Read 1 Cor. 15:58, Col. 3:23-24

☐ Tuesday - Encourage One Another.

Romans 15:14

Would the people in your life who know you the best say that you are an encouraging person? The apostle Paul was a great encourager (Rom. 15:14), and he encouraged Christians to encourage one another. To this ministry every Christian is called: to be encouragers of one another’s faith. Let’s face it, being a Christian can be hard. The world, the flesh, and the devil constantly assail us. But you, Christian, are called to encourage those that walk that narrow road that leads to eternal life. And O what a sweet place is that church that makes encouraging one another every person’s ministry. Read Rom. 14:19, 1 Thess. 5:11

☐ Wednesday - Boast Only in God.

Romans 15:17

Dear Christian, everything that you have and everything that you are has been given to you by the *grace of God*; everything good that is (Jam. 1:17). Remember, grace is unmerited, unearned and undeserved favor. So don’t boast in yourself, for “God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble” (1 Pet. 5:5, Jam. 4:6). No rather, you have something infinitely greater to boast in and that is the Lord (Psa. 96:4). Christian, boast in the Lord! Do it publically. Let the world hear from your lips about the greatness of the one true God. Make His praise glorious (Psa. 66:2). Read Psalm 34:2, Prov. 27:2

☐ Thursday - What’s the Hold Up: Ability or Availability? Romans 15:14-33

Someone may say, “When God was passing out gifts, talents, and abilities, He skipped me!” Not true, the Bible says “As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” (1 Pet. 4:10). Manifold means many kinds, i. e. there are many ways you can serve. The critical issue, then, is not ability, but availability. Ask your deacons or elders how you can serve in your church so that you can be a “good steward of the manifold grace of God.” Read 1 Corinthians 14:12

☐ Friday - Effectual Fervent Prayer.

Romans 15:30

Paul encouraged the saints at the church in Rome to “strive together” in prayer. The Greek word (*sunagónidzomai*), found only here in the Bible, is a strong word which could be translated “agonize together” in prayer. The prayers of God’s people are likened to incense (Psa. 141:2; Rev. 5:8, 8:3-4), but incense makes no fragrant smell unless it is ignited. So too, prayer must be ignited by true spiritual passion if it is to ascend to God, for it is the “effectual fervent prayer” of a righteous man or woman that availeth much (Jam. 5:16). Read Jeremiah 29:13