

PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL



The Book of Romans

Chapter 15

Verses 22 to 33

1. The task of sharing the Gospel is on all of us. It is a task that is not yet finished.

<https://joshuaproject.net/>

40.5%
(6,700 groups)
of People Groups
are unreached

=

42%
(3.1 billion)
of world's
population

2. Partnering each other to do God's work is one of the greatest blessings and joy of knowing our Lord Jesus.

Philippians 1: 3-6

I thank my God every time I remember you.

In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray **with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now**, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

3. God is moving in Pentecost Methodist Church!

**“What one generation tolerates,
The next generation will embrace.”**

- John Wesley

Psalms 145: 1-4

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will raise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. **One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.**

Romans 15:22-24

22 This is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.

23 But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you,

24 I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.

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1 Corinthians 3:6-7

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

We are fellow workers in partnership together. No one is successful for the gospel because of himself. We may never know how God will use our work. But we need to put our trust in Him and know that He will.

#1 The call to SEND

- **William Carey**
 - **The father of Modern Missions**
 - **“..you must hold the ropes.”**
- **Verse 24 Assist me on my journey there (to Spain)”**

“The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity, but its sending capacity.”

- Mike Stachura

Romans 15:25-27

Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the Lord's people there.

For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the Lord's people in Jerusalem.

They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings.

#2 The call to FELLOWSHIP

- **Diversion**
 - **to bring a contribution from the Gentile churches to the poor among the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem**
 - **1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9**
- **Beneficiaries of spiritual blessings**

#2 The call to FELLOWSHIP

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#2 The call to FELLOWSHIP

“Contribution” - “Koinonia” (Greek)

- Fellowship**
- Partnership (Phil 1:5)**
- Sharing our life in Christ**

A COMMON LOVE

**A common love for each other
A common gift to the Saviour
A common bond holding us to the
Lord
A common strength when we are
weary
A common hope for tomorrow
A common joy in the truth of God's
word**

**In His family we can meet each
one's needs
We can light each one's path
We can bear each one's grief
As his children, we can comfort
each care
We can build each one's faith
We can work, we can share**

How do we say that we fellowship, we are in kiononia, when we hold our resources tightly? How do we give financial help to others, if we worry about how much blessings we can get in return from God? How do we give our time, our gifts, our talents, our partnership and share in the common love of Christ, if we are concerned about how we will be recognized by man?

Romans 15:30-31

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.

Pray that I may be kept safe from the unbelievers in Judea and that the contribution I take to Jerusalem may be favorably received by the Lord's people there.

#3 The call to PRAY

- **“Struggle”**
- **Pray:**
 - **the authority of Jesus Christ**
 - **the love of the Holy Spirit**
 - **to God the Father**

#3 The call to PRAY

- **Pray for Others**
- **Request others to pray for you**

What stops us from sharing our prayer needs?

- **“I don’t want to burden others”**
- **“I don’t want others to know my struggles”**
- **“I don’t trust anyone”**
- **“I don’t think any one will pray for me”**

When we ask others to pray for us, we remind ourselves of our own vulnerabilities. We remember our own human limitations. We open up ourselves to see God's grace at work.

Romans 15:32

32 so that I may come to you with joy, by God's will, **and in your company be refreshed.**

Romans 1:11-12

- 11** I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong –
- 12** that is, that you and I may be **mutually encouraged by each other's faith.**

#4 The call to ENCOURAGE

- **Hebrews 3:13 - exhorts us to encourage each other daily.**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:11 - we are to encourage and build each other up.**

#4 The call to ENCOURAGE

- **Encourage someone who is seeking direction that God will work His purpose for the good of those who love Him (Rom 8:28)**
- **Encourage someone who is struggling with sin and the assurance of salvation that God loves them and that while we sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8)**
- **Come alongside someone who may be grieving (Romans 12:15)**
- **For someone new in the faith, accept them and help them in growing in their faith (Romans 14:1)**

Romans 15:29

29 I know that when I come to you, I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ.

The HEART of the partner

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Paul was the servant. He was not going to Rome to highlight his great achievements and to be lifted unto the shoulders of the cheering crowd for winning souls for God. Paul knew what his purpose was. That his arrival in Rome will bring with it an ever increasing glory to Christ. To Paul, Christ was everything. He had no other ambition. For to him, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (Phil 1:21)

If Christ is not all to you He is nothing to you. He will never go into partnership as a part Saviour of men. If He be something He must be everything, and if He be not everything He is nothing to you.”

- Charles Spurgeon

Partnership in the Gospel

Task of sharing the Gospel is unfinished.

Great joy in partnering each other in the Gospel.

God is moving in PMC.

**WILL YOU ANSWER THE CALL TO BE PARTNERS IN
THE GOSPEL FOR JESUS?**

Romans 15:33

The God of peace be with you all.