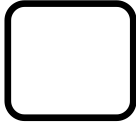


GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Skim over Romans 16:1-16, where Paul mentions many people who have “worked hard in the Lord.” Who are some of the people in your life or your congregation for whom you are thankful because they “worked very hard in the Lord”?
2. Read Romans 15:23-33. Paul shares his mission plans and his request for prayers. Do you have a “mission plan,” an individual or family that you hope to bring closer to Christ? Take time as a group to pray for each other’s mission plans.
3. Read Romans 16:17-20. Paul had just celebrated unity in Christ alone by mentioning many people by name. What are we to “watch out for” that threatens to destroy this unity?
4. Compare Paul’s instruction to Jesus’ words in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 7:13-20. How does the warning about the narrow way to life give urgency to Jesus’ command to watch out for false prophets?
5. How does it make you feel to hear Paul’s words: “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet” (Romans 16:20)? When do you feel crushed by Satan? When do you feel Satan is crushed by you?
6. Close with the Lord’s Prayer as a prayer that our Father would create and preserve unity in God’s church based on Christ alone.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

In View of God's Mercy: United in Christ Alone Romans 15:23-16:27

1. Satan is the divider – A review of Romans 12-15

2. The Goal of Unity in Christ Alone (Romans 16:25-27)

3. The Blessing of Unity in Christ Alone (Romans 15:23-16:16)
 - a. Supporting each other's ministry
 - b. Praying for each other
 - c. Encouraging each other

4. Strive for Unity in Christ Alone (Romans 16:17-20)

My Next Steps

- **Pray:** “Join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.” Let someone know that you are praying for them.
- **Give Thanks:** Spend time in thanksgiving for the people who have “worked hard in the Lord” or who has been a spiritual mother or father to you.
- **Strive for unity based on God's Word:** Make a plan to grow in your knowledge of God's Word,
 - Join Pastor Pete in the daily Bible readings (see daily emails or the reading plan at the Welcome Center).
 - Join the next *Following the Promise* study. Email Pastor Nate at nstrobel@stpmuskego.org.
 - Join a zoom or in-person small group Bible study. Email Pastor Pete at ppanitzke@stpmuskego.org.