

QUESTIONS TO PONDER—What did you find interesting, new, difficult, confusing, etc. in the readings this week?

**1. Sunday, June 25; Romans 14:1-12; Worry About Yourself Not Others.** Read passage with notes. What are “disputable matters” in the church (1)? Why should we not quarrel over disputable matters as Paul gives examples (24)? Are you or I fully convinced in our own minds why we do or don’t do something (5-6)? For whom do we live and die (7-9)? Again, why is judgment of others wrong (10)? How will we acknowledge God and then ourselves before God when we die (11-12)? **Personal Application:** How does quarreling, nit-picking, and/or judgment of others play a role in your life or mine? How may we kick this habit?

**2. Monday, June 26; Romans 14:13-23; Do What Leads to Peace.** Read passage with notes. Consider whether or not anything you do or say is a stumbling block to others (13). Why does the Lord want us to defer to the weaker (14-16)? What is the more important attitude to have as believers than just doing things to please ourselves (17-21)? Why is personal time with the Lord so important (22-23)? **Personal Application:** How is the practice of deferring to another out of love a part of your life or mine? What difference have you seen in your relationships because of deference to another?

**3. Tuesday, June 27; Romans 15:1-7; Investing in Others.** Read passage with notes. Explain one of our calls as Christians as described in verse one. What tie-consuming, selfless act are we encouraged to take on (2-3)? What and Who provides us with endurance and encouragement (4-5)? Why (6)? What is one of the practical ways God is praised (7)? **Personal Application:** Currently in your life or mine, with whom is God asking you or me to spend valuable time building up? What is the purpose of this investment?

**4. Wednesday, June 28; Romans 15:8-13; Glorify God for the HOPE You’ve Been Given.** Read passage with notes. What was the first purpose of Christ’s coming (8)? What was God’s further purpose in sending His Son (9-12)? How did Jesus praise God among the Gentiles (9)? How do you and I rejoice, praise, extol, and hope in God (10-12)? What four gifts are given to us through the power of the Holy Spirit (13)? **Personal Application:** Spend some time praising God for bringing you and me, Gentiles, into the fold and family of God.

**5. Thursday, June 29; Romans 15:14-22; Filled with Goodness, Knowledge, and Competency.** Read passage and notes. How does Paul build up you and me with God’s viewpoint of us (14)? What was God’s purpose, through Paul, in writing Romans (15-16)? How did Christ work through Paul in his missionary journeys (17-19)? What was Paul’s ambition and thus the reason the Romans (and us) received a letter instead of a visit (20-21)? **Personal Application:** How does or should being filled with goodness, knowledge, and competency to instruct one another give us confidence in our ministries for the Lord?

**6. Friday, June 30; Romans 15:23-33; We Have the Full Measure of the Blessing of Christ.** Read passage with notes. How was Paul hoping to build up and partner with the Romans in the near future (23)? What work was he finishing up (25-26)? Why were the Gentiles of Macedonia and Achaia sharing their monetary gifts with the Jews (27-28)? As the Holy Spirit propelled Paul to Rome, what was his personal gift to share with the Romans (29)? For what struggles did Paul enlist the prayers of the Romans (30-31)? How would their prayers strengthen Paul (32-33)? **Personal Application:** How have you and I seen “the full measure of the blessing of Christ” in our lives? Why should we enlist the prayers of other believers for the struggles we have? Who will you or I enlist to pray for us?

**7. Saturday, July 1; Romans 16:1-18; Appreciating Godly Qualities in Friends/ Be Wary of Those Who Divide.** Why did Paul want the Romans to take care of Phoebe (1-2)? Why was Paul appreciative of Priscilla and Aquila (3-5a)? What was special about Epenetus (5b)? Mary (6)? Andronicus and Junia (7)? Ampliatus (8)? Urbanus and Stachys (9)? Apelles and Aristobulus (10)? Herodion and Narcissus (11)? Tryphena, Tryphosa, and Persis (12)? Rufus and his mother (13)? Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the other brothers and sisters with them. Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas (14-15)? What was Paul’s advice about those who caused division (17-18)? **Personal Application:** Write down the names of your close friends and what you appreciate about them. Write them a note or pray God’s blessing over them. **Cindy Oury. June 23, 2017.**

