



# To God Be The Glory

## Romans 15:1-13

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As we have been Roaming Through Romans, it has been noted that the church of Rome was a diverse group that, humanly speaking, should not have existed. Take time to consider our group and our congregation.

1. Consider and share with each other your family background. Where did you family originate from? How many generations have you been in this country? How important was/is your ethnic background to you today? Where were you born and raised?
2. Consider your spiritual background. Were you raised Roman Catholic, Protestant (Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian...) or with some other spiritual background (or not)? How important was/is your spiritual background to you today? What were the circumstances of your trusting Jesus as your Savior?
3. Do you think that our group's composition is representative of the congregation as a whole? Why or why not?
4. Do you think our differences as a congregation are a strength or a weakness? Why or why not?

### **Our Obligation (verses 1-6)**

1. According to Paul, what is our obligation to each other? Why does that obligation exist?
2. Thinking through Paul's two examples (verses 2-4), what heart level attitudes do we need to have in order to fulfill our obligation?
3. These days, how are you doing at bearing up your siblings in Jesus?

### **Our Welcome (verses 7-13)**

1. What does Paul mean by "*welcome one another*"? What is the reason Paul gives for our needing to do this?
2. Given the "diversity" of the church in Rome (and the divisions/conflicts they were experiencing), how well do you think they received Paul's instruction? What changes in their actions/attitudes do you think they may have needed to make?
3. How does welcoming each other help us to "bear up" each other?
4. These days, how well do you think we as a congregation are doing at welcoming/accepting each other? How do you think we might become more welcoming/accepting?
5. Where does the ability to bear up each other come from? How does God get the glory when we live according to Paul's teaching?

### **Extra Credit**

1. Apart from the working of God, do you think our group and/or congregation should exist? What do you think is God's purpose in bringing us together?
2. How well do you think we as a congregation do at working through conflict (or areas of division)? Why or why not?
3. How do you think we might prepare ourselves now for our adversary's next "sucker punch" attempt at creating division and distraction from God's purposes for us.