

The Pleasures of God (Romans 15:1-13)

Pastor Deric

(1) We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. (2) Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. (3) For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."

(4) For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (5) May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, (6) that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(7) Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

(8) For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, (9) and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." (10) And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." (11) And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

(12) And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." (13) May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. [Romans 15:1-13 ESV]

Practical Application

1. God is the most pleasurable being there is.
2. God takes pleasure in graciously saving people because of His great love.
3. By grace alone and through faith alone God is pleased with us positionally in and through His Son, Jesus. You can rest in your position in Christ in the family of God.
4. Now, you can be a strong and mature Christian.
5. You can also be a weak and immature Christian.
6. Strong and mature Christians have the obligation and pleasure to bear with the failings of the weak.
7. Strong and mature Christians don't seek ultimately to please themselves.
8. Strong and mature Christians seek to please their Heavenly Father and other people.
9. The difference in healthy pleasing of people and unhealthy "people pleasing" is your motive and aim.
10. Seeking to please people for God's glory, the sake of the gospel, out of love for God, love for people, and the eternal and temporal good of people is healthy.
11. Seeking to please people for your own glory, for your own sake, out of mere love for self, in order to use or abuse them, and out of insecurity is unhealthy.
12. Strong and mature Christians seek to build others up and to help others see how good and great God is.
13. Jesus is the perfect example we should follow. Follow Jesus.
14. Jesus did not seek to please Himself. He sought to please the Father and other people.
15. Jesus took all of our shame, disgrace, and the displeasure of God upon Himself on the cross for us when He died.
16. In Christ, you can be honored and graced. In Christ, God is pleased with you as His child.
17. The Old Testament, and the entire Bible, was written to instruct us. It contains the best instruction a person can ever receive.

18. God's Word helps us to endure life's difficulties. Listen to it, read it, learn it, memorize it, meditate on it, delight in it, and live it.
19. God's Word encourages us like no-one, no other book, and nothing else can.
20. God's Word gives us hope like nothing else can.
21. You can live about 3 days without water, 3 weeks without food, but not 3 minutes without hope.
22. This is why this church is named Hope Mountain. We all need hope and we all need God. We want this church to be a place where people can find hope and meet with God. We want this church to be a base where hope filled people are sent out (deployed) each week to bring hope to the people of the world in Jesus' name.
23. God gives endurance to His people. He is a God of endurance.
24. God gives encouragement to His people. He is a God of encouragement.
25. God is unity (One= Monotheism) in diversity (Three=Trinitarian) and can bring unity (harmony) in diversity in the church, in families, and in the world.
26. Jesus Christ can bring harmony in diversity like no-one else can. We can live in harmony by the love and power of Christ.
27. With one united voice let's tell the world how glorious God is today!
28. Let's welcome others in our lives and in this church like God has graciously welcomed us!
29. Let's do everything we do for the glory, honor, praise, and worship of God!
30. Let's be servants of Christ who live, love, and serve like Christ every single day!
31. Let's trust God with all our hearts because He is truthful!
32. Let's trust in God and His promises each day!
33. Let's remember and recognize the heritage we have in God!
34. Let's enjoy and spread God's mercy to the people of Shelby County and the world!
35. Let's praise God publicly! Let's sing to God publicly and congregationally each Sunday!
36. Let's delight in God, find pleasure in God, and enjoy God today and forever!
37. Let's revel in the rule of God over all! He is sovereign, He is great, and He is good!
38. Let the God of hope give you hope today, tomorrow, and forever.
39. Let the God of hope fill you with joy today, tomorrow, and forever.
40. Let the God of hope fill you with peace today, tomorrow, and forever.
41. By the power of God the Holy Spirit be filled with and abound in overflowing hope today, tomorrow, and forever!
42. We are "Hope Mountain Church" because of Jesus!

Announcements

- We are praying for someone to direct our hospitality ministry. Are you interested in learning more? Let us know.
- Welcome our Youth Summer Interns!
- Kid's summer Soccer Camp will be June 10-12 (6-8pm).
- Kid's summer Art Camp will be July 15-18 (5:30-8pm).
- No regular Wednesday night activities over the Summer Break.
- Our Youth Group is having special events all Summer. See David Barrero for more info.
- Please be praying for Michael and Elijah Garrison as they go on a mission trip to love and serve the Navajo people in New Mexico with Word of Life Ministry alongside Wayne and Kim Price. The trip is June 23-July 8th.
- All of our Small Groups meet weekly. See our small group guide to find one that is best for you.