



- I. To be **effective** in ministry, a person has to enjoy getting to know and caring for people – vv. 1-15.
 - A. Commending **Phoebe** – vv. 1-3.
 - B. Greeting **many** others – vv. 4-15.

- II. The biggest threat to the church is people with **selfish** ambitions – vv. 17-20.
 - A. They spread teaching that is not **sound** – v. 17.
 - B. Those who **cause** divisions do so for selfish reasons – v. 18.
 - C. They deceive the **naïve** believers – v.18.
 - D. Believers are to be **wise** in good and innocent in evil – v. 19.
 - E. Conquer **Satan**, don't let him conquer you – v. 20.

- III. The success of any church depends on the **involvement** of many individuals and ultimately divine blessing – vv. 21-27.
 - A. It takes care, support, and prayers of **many** people to make a church successful – vv. 21-23.
 - B. Ultimately, however, any and all success in ministry comes from God and all **credit** must go directly back to Him – vv. 25-27.

The Big Idea: Successful ministry is a **team** effort that starts and ends with **God**.