

Romans: The Gospel

Reminding You (Admonish One Another)

Romans 15:1-21

Funny what we remember and forget • Random facts, memories • You remember, they don't • Try to remember, forget • Smell, sight, recall	Good to be reminded • String, calendar, asking someone to remind • Better to be reminded "why didn't you!" "I thought you'd remember" • Where you parked • Never forget • Out of sight, out of mind
---	---

Nearing end of Romans, Paul says he said a lot of this as a reminder to the Romans

[Pray] :1-3 Weak faith, Strong faith Not putting up with, but lifting up Scruples - infirmity "error arising from weakness of mind" <i>2 Timothy, "Sound mind" (next series)</i> A weak mind • doesn't know the Word of God • doesn't understand the Word of God • A weak mind has weird faith <i>weirdness in Christianity.</i> <i>Legalism over the strangest things</i> <i>"Doubtful things"</i>	<i>Gym muscles vs. farmer muscles</i> Our spiritual strength isn't to win a spiritual body building contest <i>It's to help carry others and train them</i> We do this by putting up with their weirdness, weakness, stumbling, doubting - lifting them up through it. <i>That weird middle-school season in life</i> <i>This does not mean that the church is ruled by the whims of the weak. "A genuine concern for the weak will mean an attempt to make them strong by leading them out of their irrational scruples so that they, too, can be strong." (Morris)</i>
---	--

:4-6 The Bible was written so we would learn When we learn we believe When we believe we have real hope John 20:31 - but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. Not hope built on nothing, but on truth	Phil 4:7 Peace that passes understanding Knowledge of scriptures gives you understanding Belief gives you peace beyond what you can understand We lose our patience and comfort when we don't understand • Why are they driving so slow? • Why don't they do it the way I want? • Why are you allowing this in my life God?
Real patience? From God alone Real comfort? From God alone Where do you find your comfort? Where are you putting your hope? Scripture + The Holy Spirit - how God comforts you Why patience? Because things don't work out when we want them to • The flesh wants it right now • The Spirit knows it takes time	All throughout scripture: Promises take time The scripture gives us reason and insight into the spiritual world and timing <i>If you spend time in the Word, you'll begin to see what's going on. And if you don't understand, you'll still get the same peace</i> <i>We are often in such a hurry and God often seems to work too slowly for us. Often the purposes of God seem to be delayed but they always are fulfilled. DG</i>
Like-minded His church, His ideas, His ways	What happens? • Weak made strong • We're cared for and comforted • Patience and unity • God is glorified

:7

Remember last week, receive,
take in, companion

Why? Because Jesus did the same with you!

Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

**It's not to make you look better
It's to glorify God**

- Weak, strong
- Jew, Gentile
- Old, young
- Male, female
- West Coast, East Coast
- Made one in God

:8-12

Jesus is the fulfilment of the promises made

to Adam & Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David and others

fulfilled promises to

Israel, Israelis, Jews and Jewish fathers

Means promises that extend to bless everyone

**Sent to the Jews
To Save the Gentiles**

Songs of the OT, Quotes from 2 Sam, Deut, Psalms, Isaiah

This wasn't a rewrite

This was the plan all along

In Him, the Gentiles shall hope.

The Messiah, out of the Jews, was to give the Gentiles hope!

:13

Where does real hope come from? The God of Hope

Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, **to give you a future and a hope.**

God's desire? To give us all hope!

- promises for the future
- His word kept in the past
- His Son fulfills His Word
- His Spirit given as a guarantee

Proverbs 13:12 - Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.

If you don't have hope today...

- Have you read the book of hope?
- Do you know the God of hope?
- Are you looking forward to His promises being fulfilled?

What happens when we believe in the Words of the God of Hope?

Filled with Joy & peace in believing

Hope, joy and peace come through faith!

Faith lets our weakness be lifted up by His Strength

**The Holy Spirit is the comforter
He will use the Word
to comfort you!**

*Don't discount the Holy Spirit's influence,
power, speaking into your life!*

He's speaking to you right now!

**The enemy wants you to despair
The Holy Spirit will always lead you to hope!**

:14

Full of goodness

Uprightness of heart and life

Filled with all knowledge

Understanding, moral wisdom

Able to admonish

Warn, caution, animate by advice and argument

That's a healthy believer, a healthy church.

Right: motives, understanding, attitude, lives

2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 4:2 - Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

It's why we study

It's why we worship

It's why we pray

To know God better

When we know Him right

We we know His Word rightly

2 Timothy 2:15 - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

The word rightly divided

- Comfort us and give us hope
- Correct our lives
- Strengthen us to help each other
- Glorify God

:15-16 Paul pointed out things more <u>boldly</u> As a <u>reminder</u> There's a lot to remember, keep in mind <i>My lists of errands, to-dos</i> Important and healthy to be reminded! 2 Peter 1:13 - Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you,	You've read the whole Bible? Great! Read it again. Haven't read a certain part recently? Study it anew. <i>Man memorized 40+ books</i> Even if you know it all, you definitely haven't applied it all <i>It took Jesus 33 years and He IS the Word of God</i> Preaching the gospel also requires teaching how to live it salvation and sanctification
Paul knew his call was to reach the Gentiles But it was never at the expense of the Jews When the Gentiles heard, even accepted It was an offering to Jesus	Do we consider our reaching others as our offering to God? Or is the tithe box as far as we go? The real reward in heaven will be others who have turned to Jesus That's worth more than what the streets are paved with
:17-19 <i>Eastern shore of Adriatic, across from Italy Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Albania, Serbia</i> v18 big deal "I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me"	Our lives are our pulpits Many of us talk a bigger game than our pulpit can handle We've learned, but never practiced We once practiced but now have forgotten <i>Glorying in the old days only Be reminded & encouraged in old offerings, but keep making new ones!</i>

I'm not a huge evangelist, I can't give you amazing tips and always lead that way I've done it, led some to Christ But this I care about hugely - that my life's pulpit can handle my preaching And my preaching doesn't exceed my pulpit Our lives amplify our words Or cancel out our message	Why have many not been obedient to the call of God? <u>Because of our disobedience to it.</u> If we, who say we believe, won't, why do we expect those who don't believe to?
<u>"In season and out" preach! (2 Tim 4:2)</u> Let it be exhortation, admonishment, for all of us to live for Jesus more And share Him more - in word and deed Fully preached the gospel of Christ In every word, on every topic, with a life that backs it up	<u>I think it's why we stop short - we don't know it all, or we've forgotten, we're rusty, or worse, we're disobedient</u> Get back on the horse Forget the things behind, dust yourself off in Jesus, and keep going The race isn't over yet And it's all by His Spirit - God's strength is made perfect in our weakness
:20-21 When Paul looked around on where to preach - it was never to poach from other ministries, to reach the unreached <i>Inviting people to church...</i> <i>Like Montana, the frontier</i> We like to go where it's easy, people think like us, act like us Paul went to the least-godly places to preach	It's a big deal, not building on another man's foundation <i>Seeing another's success, wanting to piggy back on it and take the credit</i> <i>Stealing sheep!</i> Being raised up to take over a ministry is not the same Or if God lifts you up and lowers another But what is your motive, desire, aim? Ministry is not a competition But to win more goats to be sheep

Some take too far, claim a huge area for themselves Some won't do any work at all thinking it's all done <i>Even if 10 healthy churches in Helena How many backslidden believers are out there, not in church? Burned believers hurting and in need of healing? Unbelievers lost and in need of the gospel?</i> Japan - missionary graveyard	Matthew 10:14 NKJV - "And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet. Sometimes I get frustrated. People, believers even, want the things of God, but they don't seem to really want Him Ministries flourish, seem to bear fruit - but go about it in ways that don't seem to be of genuinely Godly ways
---	---

Philippians 1:15-18 - Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.

Isaiah 55:10-13 - "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. "For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; And it shall be to the LORD for a name, For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Receive the weak

Glorify God together

Preach Jesus from the pulpit of your life.

Remind those who have heard

Reach those who haven't