

Taking the
GOSPEL *to the*
ENDS of the EARTH

Romans 15:14-33



Introduction

Finding our sweet spot:

What if you could find that sweet spot in life where you knew you were doing what God wanted you to do?

That was Paul's privilege and joy in ministry.



Paul's calling was unique. But there are things we can learn from Paul's example that can help us to live our life for God's glory.



I. We need a clear sense of purpose.
Romans 15:14-16

Paul knew his calling. Verse 16
He was called by God to be a minister of Christ to the Gentiles.



Paul affirmed the church at Rome in three areas. They were:

- Full of goodness
- Complete in knowledge
- Competent to instruct.



What is our calling?

"Every life should have a purpose to which it can give the energies of its mind and the enthusiasms of its heart. The life without a purpose will be prey to the perverted ways waiting for the uncommitted life."
C. Neil Strait



Jesus said, *“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.”* John 10:10



What does God want us to do?

- Offer ourselves to him.
Romans 12:1-2
- Use our gifts for his glory.
Romans 12:3-8
- Love one another.
Romans 12:9-21

Trust God to lead you and he will direct your steps. Proverbs 3:5-6



II. We need a firm reliance upon God in all things. Romans 15:17-22

Paul knew that any success in ministry he had achieved was only by God's grace and power – not his own.



“From Jerusalem to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.”

That's about 1400 miles in sandals.

It's amazing what God can do through the life of someone who is fully devoted to him.



III. We need a visionary faith and a flexible plan. Romans 15:23-29

Paul's vision was to preach the gospel to those who had never heard about Jesus.



Paul's plan was to go to Spain and stop by Rome on the way. But first he must go to Jerusalem to bring and offering from the Gentiles for the Jewish believers who are in need.



Paul was flexible in his plans – sensitive to the Spirit's leading.

What are your dreams and ambitions?

“There is an ambition that is self-seeking and that is wrong. But there is an ambition which has at its center the glory of God and the welfare of the church that is not only legitimate. It is positively praiseworthy.” Oswald Sanders



IV. We need powerful earnest prayer. Romans 15:30-33

Paul prayed and he asked others to pray.

“I urge you brothers to join in my struggle.”

God has called all of us to join with him in his great work.

Our mission is to

“go and make disciples of all nations”.

That work starts right here in us.



Conclusion

God has a plan for your life.

“The Lord confides in those who fear Him.” Psalm 25:14

Will you join with him to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth?

