



How To Be A Good And Faithful Servant (Part 4)

Romans 16:1-27

#22 in a series on Romans

Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

April 18, 2010

Part 1, 1:1-17, September 27, 2009

Part 2, 1:1-17, October 4, 2009

Part 3, 15:14-33, April 11, 2010

Theme: **Good And Faithful Service Flows Through Partnerships.**

Partnerships That Value Each Other.

1. Value the relationship. (1-16, 21-23)
2. Value the ministry. (1, 2, 3-4, 6, 12, 21-23; cf. 1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 1:10; 1 Timothy 5:17)

Partnerships That Protect Truth And Unity.

1. Loving unity and doctrinal purity are partners. (17; cf. Psalm 85:10; Ephesians 4:15)
2. Protecting each other from disunity and falsehood. (17-20; cf. Galatians 1:6-9; 2 John 7-11)

Partnerships That Rely On And Give Glory To God.

1. Rely on God to establish you and your partners. (25-27; cf. 1 Corinthians 1:8; 2 Corinthians 4:17; Ephesians 3:20-21; Philippians 1:6; 1 Peter 5:10; Jude 24)
2. Give glory to God. (27; cf. 11:36; 15:5-6; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 3:21; Philippians 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:17)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Yesterday we considered the truth that good and faithful service flows through partnerships. Read 16:1-27 noting and then listing the words and points that speak about ministry being a partnership with other believers. Do you see yourself as a partner with others in serving God, and others as a partner with you? If so, in what ways? If not, why not? Look at your list of words and points about partnership again. How many of these things are active and vital for you?

Tuesday. Partnerships that are channels of good and faithful service are those where the people value each other. Read 16:1-27 and look at the list you made yesterday noting the things that point to valuing relationships and ministry with others. Now think about your relationships and ministry with others in our church and elsewhere. How do you value them? List some specific attitudes and actions that demonstrate how you value them. Make sure your prayer time consistently includes thanking God and praying for your partners in ministry. When was the last time you told them that you value, appreciate and are praying for them ?

Wednesday. Part of living and serving together is protecting both truth and unity. Read 16:17-20 and the other verses listed in the outline taking time to soak in and think about the strong points they make. The relationship of purity and unity, truth and love, is a God-designed tension to keep us in balance. Paul's focus here is on truth, without which we cannot have and enjoy the unity that the Holy Spirit creates among God's people. Can you think of specific times, points and people where you did not protect God's truth out of a desire for unity? If so, why? Remember, Paul is not speaking about areas of Christian liberty that we looked at in chapters 14 and 15.

Thursday. Good and faithful service flows through relationships that rely on and give glory to God. Read Paul's statement of this in the closing lines, verses 25-27. God is "able to establish you", as we saw earlier in 14:4. God can and will establish you (see the other verses relating to this listed in the outline). Since God is and will keep working in you, you can have confidence that He will work through you and your partners in ministry.

Paul closes with giving glory to God and calling for glory to be given to Him forever. How do you describe *glory*, briefly? What does it mean to, how do you give glory to God? Have you been doing that this week?

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to begin a new series in the Psalms. Read and think through Psalm 1 as you prepare to worship together.

© 2010 Lyle L. Wahl