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**Valley Church**

**March 9 & 12, 2023**  
**Week 40 – A God-Centered Life (Rom.15:14-33)**

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**Introduction:**

Romans 15:14-16

**A God-Centered Life Means I Am...**

- 1) A product of \_\_\_\_\_ from start to finish (vs. 15-16a)

*"...because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus..."*

- 2) A priest before \_\_\_\_\_ in life and ministry (vs. 16b)

*"He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel...so that Gentiles might become...acceptable to God..."*

- 3) A person who \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ alone (vs. 17-18)

*"...I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. I will not...speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me..."*

- 4) A proclaimer of the \_\_\_\_\_ wherever I go (vs. 19-22)

*"It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known."*

- 5) A participant in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's kingdom (vs. 23-29)

*"I hope...to have you assist me on my journey... Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem...to make a contribution for the poor among God's people..."*

- 6) A part of a team far \_\_\_\_\_ than just me (vs. 30-33)

*"I urge you...to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me."*

**The Big Idea:**

We are products of grace, priests before God, glorying in Christ, proclaiming the gospel, participating in generosity and part of a greater team...

## QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

### Personal Life:

1. Point number one in the weekend message lays the foundation of a God-directed life: that we are a product of God's **grace** from start to finish. In what *specific* ways in your life are a product of God's grace? Give thanks with your small group by naming these things aloud.

### Ponderings:

2. The second point Paul makes in Romans 15:14-33 is that we are priests before **God**. Read 1 Peter 2:9 as a parallel passage. As part of God's "royal priesthood," how does this affect your own sense of mission in life?
3. The third indicator of a God-centered life is that we would **glory** (boast) in Christ alone. Since Paul mentions this so frequently in his letters (ex. 1 Cor. 1:31; 2 Cor. 10:17; Gal. 6:14, etc.) what does it mean essentially, to boast in Christ? How does your own life reflect an ongoing "boasting" in Christ?
4. The fourth point Paul raises is that he desires to be a proclaimer of the **gospel** wherever Christ isn't known. Where is Christ not "known" in your sphere of daily routines? Your campus? Your workplace? Your street? Your family? How is your life pointing people to Jesus? Explain...
5. Financial **generosity** is Paul's next area of emphasis. What fears, cares, habits or concerns typically war against our generosity? How does generosity reflect – perhaps more than any tangible expression – that we are living a God-directed life? Can a person be said to be intimately walking with Jesus apart from generosity? Explain...
6. The sixth and final indicator of Paul's God-directed life is his humility in inviting others to "join me in my struggle." Paul asks for prayer and indicates a reliance upon the teamwork of the **greater** Body. How is this relevant to us as we live in a very self-sufficient culture?

### Promptings:

7. Recognizing that these qualities are *descriptive* rather than *prescriptive*, how can you yield to the Lord's desire to form these qualities more deeply into your life right now? In what specific way(s) have you seen these qualities emerge in your lifestyle as a result of Christ's presence in you? What area(s) seem lacking or absent? Be honest with each other, gentle with yourself, and reliant upon God for this fruit of His Spirit...