

# ROMANS

## TRANSFORMED!

MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH & DAN GILLETTE

DATE: JULY 12, 2020

To the strong: you must unite this body!  
Romans 15:1-6

### The strong must live to benefit the weak (1-2).

1. They must support the weak, even at personal cost (1).

**Rom. 15:1** *We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.*

2. They must focus on the weak's personal growth (2).

**Rom. 15:2** *Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.*

### The strong have Jesus as their model & strength (3-4).

1. Christ's sufferings exhibit such strength (3). cp Psalm 69:9

**Rom. 15:3** *For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."*

2. His strength is ours through the Scriptures (4).

**Rom. 15:4** *For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

How does His strength become ours? (1 Peter 2:21-25)

1. Christ voluntarily suffered "for" us - follow His footprints (21)!

**1Pet. 2:21** *For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.*

2. Christ committed no sin either in conduct or in motive (22)!

**1Pet. 2:22** *He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.*

3. In specific ways Christ did not please Himself (23a).

**1Pet. 2:23a** *When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten,*

4. In a specific way Christ was strengthened by His Father (23b).

1Pet. 2:23b . . . , but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

5. Christ's suffering produced the ultimate good for us (24-25).

1Pet. 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

### The strong will unite the body and reveal God (5-6).

1. God provides ability & motivation for unity (5).

**Rom. 15:5** *May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,*

2. Such unity reveals God (6).

**Rom. 15:6** *that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Did the message stimulate any questions or present any new thoughts?
2. What would be required of you "to bear with the failings of the weak" (1)?
3. How could you tell if a weaker brother is being built up (2)? How would such building up show in her/his attitudes, words or action?
4. Explain a few ways that Jesus' model of not pleasing Himself has in the past or can in the future help you to follow His pattern (3).
5. How does living this way (1-2) lead to unity (5) and God's glory (6)?
6. Read 1 Peter 2:21-25 a few times per day this week.
  - Think of ways to "cement" this short passage in your heart. For example, look for someone to discuss it with (a different person each day).
  - Try to describe how Jesus must have felt to be so mistreated and killed, though entirely innocent.
  - Jesus "continued entrusting himself" to His Father (23b); list some descriptions of what Jesus would have said to God during this time of horrific mistreatment.
  - Explain the nature of the ultimate good that Jesus accomplished for us (24-25). How should this motivate us to bear with weak believers more faithfully and lovingly?

### SONGS

"Grateful" - Stefan Green, Chris Brown, Matthew Ntlele, Steven Furtick

"How Great Thou Art" - Stuart K. Hine Trust

"O Come to the Altar" - Christopher Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, Wade Joye

"Build My Life" - Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Pat Barrett, Matt Redman

"Christ Be All Around Me" - David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, Leslie Jordan

### BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$55,885.00  
WEEKLY NEED: \$34,979.00

YTD GIVING: \$945,340.00  
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$944,433.00