MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE, NATALIE MOOG DATE: AUGUST 2, 2020

Paul's Blueprint for a Lifetime of Fruitful, Satisfying Ministry PT. 2

Romans 15:22-33

Review (Romans 15:14-21):

- An effective servant shows intentional commitment to defined goals (15:14-16).
- 2. An effective servant experiences both satisfaction and humility (14:17-19).
- 3. An effective servant understands how and where their gifting will be most effective (15:20-21).
- 4. An effective servant keeps proper priorities.

Rom. 15:22 This is the reason why I have so often been hindered from coming to you.

Ministry (or service) brings delight when we keep the following in mind (15:23-29):

1. Stay mission-minded on what you are called to do.

Rom. 15:23 But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, **24** I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while.

2. Enjoy the process and the evidence of God's kindness.

Rom. 15:25 At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. **26** For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. **27** For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings.

3. Remember that service runs both ways (28-29).

Rom. 15:28 When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. **29** I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

Ministry (or service) demands prayer support from the body of believers (15:29-32).

1. United resolve in praying for one another benefits all involved (29b-30).

Rom. 15:29b I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ. **30** I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

Rom. 1:11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— **12** that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

2. Through prayer we seek God to provide both protection and delight (31).

Rom. 15:31 that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints,

3. These two areas (protection and delight) will make our reunion so much better (32).

Rom. 15:32 so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company.

We have access to God's tranquility, even when working hard (33)!

Rom. 15:33 May the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

Discussion/Reflection Questions:

- Do you delight in your service to Christ?
- 2. How are you doing in the following areas? Discuss the connection between a proper focus in these areas and the experience of delight in serving Christ.
 - Staying mission-minded
 - Enjoying the process and evidence of God's kindness
 - Remembering that service runs both ways
- 3. What are some hindrances to your areas of service? What can you do to experience enjoyment even in those moments/relationships?
- 4. Identify 3 people that you can commit to be praying for this coming week/month. Develop a pattern in your daily schedule to pray!
- 5. Join us this Thursday for our Drive Thru Prayer event!!!

<u>SONGS</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	
"Stand in Your Love" – Ethan Hulse, Josh Baldwin, Mark Harris, Rita Springer	GIVING LAST WEEK:	\$21,087.00 \$34,979.00
"All Creatures/ Holy, Holy, Holy" – Brent Milligan, David Crowder, St. Francis of Assisi, William Henry Draper	WEEKLY NEED:	
"Taste & See (Psalm 34)" - Valley Bible Worship (Dan Gillette)	YTD GIVING: YTD GENERAL NEED:	\$1,017,368.00 \$1,049,370.00
"What A Beautiful Name" – Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood		