

SMALL GROUP LESSON

MAY 6, 2018

THE GOD OF HOPE, JOY, AND PEACE FOR ALL!

ROMANS 15:7-13; Titus 2:11-14; I Peter 2:9,10; EPHESIANS 4:1-6 AND 4:21-5:2

In this week's sermon our pastor spent a significant amount of time talking about ways we have not only been accepted into the family of God, but have been warmly welcomed into this family by Him. He discussed the implications this has for us both individually and corporately as a body of believers. We will be looking this week at three key passages of Scripture: Romans 15:7-13, Titus 2:11-14 and I Peter 2:9, 10.

1. Read Romans 15:7-13. What is the first thing Paul tells the Roman believers that they should do in verse seven? Why does he say it is important to do this?
2. In chapter 14, what were the two controversial topics that Paul addressed (14:2 and 5). Why were these issues potential sources of conflict in the Roman church? What is Paul trying to tell both Jews and Gentiles in Romans 15:8-12? What is the significance of the quotations Paul uses from the Old Testament?
3. According to our pastor, God has always had two purposes for sending Jesus into our world? What were these? What scriptural justification did he use to make this statement? (Titus 2:14, I Peter 2:9) See also Jesus prayer in John 17:9-21 and Paul's second letter to the Corinthians (II Cor. 5:14, 15). You may also want to look at Ephesians 2:11-15.
4. To recap these last several lessons, how will our lives be changed if we heed Paul's instructions in Romans 14 and 15? You may also want to look again at Ephesians 4:1-3 and 25-32 for some ideas.
5. Paul concludes this section of Romans that addresses our acceptance and welcoming of each other with a benediction, verse 13. What can we expect to receive from God if we live in the ways that Paul describes in these chapters?