

³⁰ Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,

³¹ that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints,

³² that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you.

³³ Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

Romans 15:30-33

1. The challenges of ministry

- a) Ministry for the Lord is never easy
- b) Many demands and challenges exist
- c) In the case of the Apostle Paul
 - i) There was great danger
 - ii) Enemies of the Gospel sought to kill him

2. An appeal for spiritual support

- a) Through the love of the Lord Jesus
- b) Through the love of the Holy Spirit
- c) The operative word is "love"

3. How do we give spiritual support?

- a) Paul asked for prayer support
- b) Prayers that Paul sought
 - i) The intercessor must be prepared to strive in prayer

- ii) Prayer support must not be given “casually”

4. A Specific request

- a) That Paul be delivered from enemies who dwelt in Judea
- b) These were most likely antagonistic Jews
- c) They hated Paul’s commitment to preach to the Gentiles

5. Another specific request

- a) That his planned visit to Jerusalem would meet with success
- b) That his effort to bring relief would not be resisted or rejected

6. A third specific request

- a) To be able to minister in Rome
- b) To meet up with the believers in Rome
- c) To be in the will of God
- d) To have joy in the heart when he meets the church in Rome
- e) To be refreshed by the Roman believers on this planned visit

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To learn how to befriend servants of God
2. To learn the following:
 - a) To understand their ministries
 - b) To comprehend the challenges in ministry
 - c) To become spiritual supporters of the Lord’s servants
3. To learn
 - a) How to be more prayerful

- b) How to strive in prayer
- c) How to pray for specific need
- d) How to be of mutual benefit to the servants of God
 - i) To be blessed
 - ii) To pray that the Lord would bless His servants