

⁸ *Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord.*

⁹ *Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved.*

¹⁰ *Greet Apelles, approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus.*

¹¹ *Greet Herodion, my countryman. Greet those who are of the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord.*

¹² *Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, who have laboured in the Lord. Greet the beloved Persis, who laboured much in the Lord.*

¹³ *Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.*

¹⁴ *Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren who are with them.*

¹⁵ *Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.*

¹⁶ *Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you.*

Romans 16:8-16

**1. A continued list of friends with greetings sent to them
(Individuals/ Couples)**

a) Amplias

"My beloved in the Lord"

Romans 16:8

b) Urbanus

"Our fellow worker in Christ"

Romans 16:9a

c) Stachys

"My beloved"

Romans 16:9b

d) Apelles

"Approved in Christ"

Romans 16:10a

e) Aristobulus

He had a household (family)

Romans 16:10b

f) Herodion

"My countryman"

Romans 16:11a

g) Narcissus

"Household... who are in Christ"

Romans 16:11b

h) Tryphena and Tryphosa

"Laboured in the Lord"

Romans 16:12a

i) Persis

"Beloved... laboured much in the Lord"

Romans 16:12b

j) Rufus

"Chosen in the Lord,
and his mother and mine"

Romans 16:13

**2. A continued list of friends with greetings sent to them
(Groups of friends)**

a) Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes

And the brethren who are with them

Romans 16:14

b) Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister

Romans 16:15a

c) And Olympas, and all the saints who are with them

Romans 16:15b

3. A Collection of churches

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

The churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

AN ANALYSIS OF THE FRIENDS OF PAUL

1. Some may be called "Individual friends"

2. Some friends were grouped together

a) A natural cluster

b) This is not necessary a clique

3. A collection of churches

- a) Paul founded many churches
- b) They were close to Paul
- c) There was a collection of them

EACH GROUP

1. Each group had its own distinctive features
2. But all of them were close to the Apostle Paul
3. He had maintained a special relationship with them

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To build strong friendships
2. To maintain friendship
3. To keep in touch
4. To always be a blessing to each other

INSPIRATIONAL TEXTS

*⁹ Two are better than one,
Because they have a good reward for their labour.*

*¹⁰ For if they fall, one will lift up his companion.
But woe to him who is alone when he falls,
For he has no one to help him up.*

*¹¹ Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm;
But how can one be warm alone?*

*¹² Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him.
And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

¹³ Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

¹⁴ You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

John 15:13-15