

Monday, 18 May 2015

Romans 1:1-6

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, (2) which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, (3) concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh (4) and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, (5) through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the **obedience of faith** for the sake of his name among all the nations, (6) including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

Paul clearly sets out his mission in the letter to the Romans. He is charged with bringing the 'obedience of faith' for the sake of the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ to all the nations. And it includes all of us who belong to Christ. He spends a lot of time in Romans dwelling on the implications of this calling; it must be important to him, and should be therefore to us.

Not only the Letter to the Romans, but I believe that all of Paul's letters expand on our Lord's command to 'make disciples as we go'. He grasped this, so must we.

Lord, guide us into a deeper and sound understanding of our call to be obedient to the faith and to carry that message to all the nations. Implant deep within us, the conviction that our lives must be obedient to the faith in order to demonstrate to others that they must do likewise.

Tuesday, 19 May 2015

Romans 1:8

*First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because **your faith is proclaimed in all the world.***

Interesting that Paul cites the faithfulness of the Christians in Rome, a place that he had not visited and never hints any acquaintance with anyone there. He is not taking credit for the effectiveness of his calling (v5) but instead recognizing the power of the Gospel to spread.

Lord, my prayer life often neglects to acknowledge others in far corners of the world who are witnessing, often with their lives,

that You are Jesus the Christ, the son of the Living God. Forgive me, Lord, and transform me into one whose constant demeanor is to praise You for Your saints.

Wednesday, 20 May 2015

Romans 1:11-12

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.

Lord, that we would earnestly seek out other Christians for mutual encouragement and as in Paul's example, not necessarily those that we know and are in daily/weekly fellowship with but others, perhaps in different communions. How joy-filled it can be to discover a brother or sister with which to share those gifts You have given us.

Thursday, 21 May 2015

Romans 1:16-17 (1)

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, **for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes**, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (17) For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

I am convinced that this verb 'to believe' is something far deeper than head knowledge. It implies trust, obedience, commitment. It is not some casual repeating of a few lines involving a surface confession of sin. No, it is a life changing event where I began to enter into life in the Kingdom of Heaven. It was the realization that there was nothing I could do, no self-driven change, I was and still am, totally dependent upon the grace of God and the Blood of the Cross. Praise the Lord.

Lord, continue to embolden me to proclaim the Gospel. Send me into the spiritual jungles to carry the Message of the Grace and Mercy of my Lord Jesus Christ to those who do not know You.

Friday, 22 May 2015

Romans 1:16-17 (2)

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (17) **For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith**, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

Do I want to know and understand the Righteousness of God? Simple., it is revealed to me through faith in the Gospel. As faith deepens, my willingness and ability to apply the Righteousness of God as the measuring rod to all aspects of my life, grows and becomes more evident.

Saturday, 23 May 2015

Romans 1:16-17 (3)

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (17) **For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith**, as it is written, "**The righteous shall live by faith.**"*

Goal line. "The righteous shall live by faith." Like this--faith in the Gospel leads to an understanding of the Righteousness of God. This leads to a righteous life that displays a life of faith.

Lord, continue to impress this simple truth upon me so that every portion of my life will reflect Your Glory.

Lord's Day, 24 May 2015

Psalm 119:91

By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.

Here's that 'all things' again. Now it is all things that serve the LORD God Almighty, another confirmation that all things work for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. And that I am one of those all things.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



May 18-24, 2015

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven
The Church at Prison, Inc.
PO Box 8318
Essex Junction, VT 05452