

# LIFE LINKS

## Growing Together



(Remember the point is not to get through all the questions, but to facilitate connection between each other and God's word.)

### **:Life:**

If you had to teach a class or lesson on one thing, what would it be?

### **:Bible:**

Paul finally arrives in Rome.

He is kept under house arrest which allows him quite a bit of freedom to have visitors. After he rested in Rome for a few days he invited the leaders among the Jews to meet with him. Once they arrive he explains everything that has happened to him in Jerusalem and why he is now in Rome. The men responded that they had not received any communication about Paul but were familiar with Christianity. They agree to come again and hear Paul's teaching. When they do they will bring others along with them.

On an arranged day many come to Paul's dwelling to hear him. Paul preached, all day, to them about the kingdom of God. He talked about how the Law of Moses and the Prophets were pointing to Jesus. Some were convinced and some rejected the message.

Paul continues to live in Rome for two years at his own expense. He receives and shares the gospel with everyone who comes to see him. He is able to do so without being hindered in the least.

Once Paul arrives in Rome he begins to preach the gospel again. He preaches to the Jews and then the Gentiles, a pattern throughout Acts. Is this a surprising end to Acts? There is no resolution but continued ministry.

The Holy Spirit is very active in the book of Acts. In what ways do you see the Holy Spirit active today?

Unlike Paul we can share the gospel with relative ease. Are you the type of person that shares the gospel? How do you do it?

Read Scripture:

**Romans 15:22-33**

**[22] This is the reason why I have so often been hindered from coming to you. [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. [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. [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.**

**[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, [31] that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, [32] so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. [33] May the God of peace be with you all. Amen. (ESV)**

Paul seeks to visit Rome temporarily as he heads on to more ministry. Once he arrives at Jerusalem his plans get altered significantly. Has God ever significantly altered the plans you had for you life? How?

**:Application:**

When you order you week do you plan with the gospel in mind?

**:Prayer Requests:**

