

18. To whom are we indebted spiritually? What have we done to acknowledge our indebtedness to those who've invested in us spiritually?

19. Where is the balance between being concerned for future financial security and wasting our life?

20. **Reflection Questions:** What ambitions has God given me for today? For future ministry? Am I wasting my life living as I do? What can I do to further God's kingdom and gospel? Do I value giving to God as so important that I set aside and save for it and sacrifice other things so that I might give more? If not, should I? Do I truly trust God with how I give to Him?

21. How can we pray for one another and our church this week?

Quotes to Ponder

Helping the poor is not simply an option we can get to if possible. It is an obligation, a debt to be honored.

Timothy Keller

If we believe God answers the prayers of His people, then it is never insignificant for your ministry focus to be praying for others.

Mark Vaughan

Duty does not exclude willing and joyful compliance. Even the most demanding duty or indebtedness can be fulfilled out of love.

John MacArthur

It is better to dream great dreams for God, even if they are not fully realized, than to dream no dreams at all.

James Montgomery Boice

The will of God is not a destination, it is a journey.

Ray Pritchard

Romans is really the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest gospel, and is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word, by heart, but occupy himself with it every day, as the daily bread of the soul.

Martin Luther



Message #124: Lesson's from Paul's Travel Plans

August 27, 2017

Sermon Notes

1. Make Plans (22-24)

A. Dream Big

B. God's Best is Better

C. Pursue God-given Desires

D. Serve with Others

2. Plan Strategically (25-28)

3. Submit to God's Will and Seek His Blessing (29)

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you?
Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you?

2. Why had Paul been *prevented* from visiting Rome (*Romans 15:19-23*)?
Who is it that *prevented* him?

3. How long had Paul been wanting to visit Rome (*Romans 15:23*)?

4. Why is Paul now planning to go to Rome (*Romans 15:23-24*)?

5. Did Paul ever make it to Spain?

6. What does James teach us about our planning (*James 4:13-16*)?

7. Does God ever give us desires or longings that He doesn't allow to
come to pass? Explain.

8. If we dream big for God, there's the inherent danger of pride, of think-
ing we are indispensable to Him. How can we avoid this trap?

9. Paul was called to be a church-planting, front-line missionary. Why is it
striking that he found time to raise money for, and deliver money to,
the poverty-stricken churches around Jerusalem?

10. Do we have a concern that the gospel go and reach those who have
never heard? How can we grow in our concern that the gospel go to

areas where it has not gone before?

11. Read *Romans 15:26-27*. Were the believers from Macedonia and
Achaia giving because they felt obligated or because they wanted to?
Explain.

12. If you think you could never give more than you currently give to God,
how do you know? Have you ever tried? Do you believe God is able to
enable you to give beyond what you imagined?

13. What does your giving say about what has happened or is happening
in your heart and life by God's grace?

14. What are some good things that might crowd out God's best for you?
What is God's best for you?

15. In what ways do you have the kind of gospel partnerships Paul had
(*Romans 15:25-29*)?

16. How did Gentiles come to share in the spiritual blessings of Israel?
What has Paul said about this in the following verses?
Romans 1:16 — *Romans 11:13-24* —

Romans 4:13-16 —

Romans 15:7-8 —

17. Why should the gospel break down barriers between all people?