



## Romans: The Beautiful Life

Romans 15:14-33


Ray Cortese, November 10 & 11, 2018



November is  
BEFRIEND  
month.  
Who are you  
befriending?

### Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

### Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1 How does our culture define “the beautiful life”? Have you embraced that definition?
- 2 What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

#### THE BEAUTIFUL LIFE – ON MISSION

- 3 Ray said, to be “on mission” is to fulfill your design, to do what you were created to do. Do you know what you were designed and created to do (you specifically, not as a human being generally)?

- 4 Why did Paul call the Gentiles his “offering”? What was Paul’s mission?
- 5 What is lost when church members make their focus, “what’s working for me”?
- 6 What interests, passions, or job has God given you in order to live out your faith before unbelievers? Does sharing the gospel have to be bold or offensive?
- 7 What did you think about Ray’s comments about the “church greeting time”? Who do you usually talk to during the first ten minutes after the service?

#### THE BEAUTIFUL LIFE – PRIORITIZING THE POOR

- 8 Had you ever heard of Paul’s “collection” before? Why was it so important to him?
- 9 Paul inconvenienced himself to take the collection to the poor in Jerusalem. Do you go out of your way for people in need?

#### THE BEAUTIFUL LIFE – DEPENDENCE ON GOD

- 10 Do you view yourself as someone who is strong and self-reliant, with great faith or giftedness? Has God ever humbled you and made you feel weak and feeble?
- 11 Ray showed a video of a kid playing goalie in a soccer game and told about David Robinson and Michael Jordan in the NBA Hall of Fame. What was the point of those two illustrations?
- 12 Ray ended the sermon by asking for prayer for the church and school and their leaders. Take some time in your group to pray for those things.

### **Step 3: Final Reflections**

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?