



LIFE GROUP

Week beginning **2nd October 2022**

Aim of session:

To discover what we can learn from how Paul lived and worked as a Missionary.
How might this apply to us?



Key Scriptures

If you have access to a commentary read some background to get context.

Romans 15: 14-33

Warm Up

If you meet someone new, how do you identify yourself? Just by name or do you add what you do (or used to do?) Do you tell them you are a Christian? Why?

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.

1. v16: How does Paul identify himself? What does he see as his role?
2. At the end of v16 what does Paul see as the purpose of his role?
3. V17 –20 How would you describe Paul's commitment to his role? Can you give some examples?
4. Given what life was like in Paul's time, how difficult must this have been? Can anyone give examples of some of the trials and problems Paul encountered that are described elsewhere in the New Testament?
5. V23-33 What evidence is there that Paul is trying to build a united Church under Christ?
6. In the same verses, what does Paul need from the Roman Church? (v24, 26-27, v30)
7. When Paul went anywhere on mission, people got saved and/or he faced opposition and persecution, why do you think this is so?

Growing in discipleship: Practical application

8. What needs to change in your own walk with God in order to make your life more in tune with Paul's approach to life?
9. What excuses (if they are excuses) do we often make for not being more like Paul?
10. How can we at VBC (or any church) ensure that we have the purpose, strategy and support that Paul enjoyed?
11. Why do Churches often find mission difficult?



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.