

Turbo Charged Ministry

ROMANS

Romans 15:44-33

KEY WORDS: Sin, Salvation, Sanctification, Sovereignty, Service.

I. A SUMMARY OF PAUL'S TWO FOLD MINISTRY

*** To Unbelievers (vs. 14-22): "gospel" that means "good news".**

What was his ministry to unbelievers? v. 15 *"I have written you quite boldly on some points as if to remind you of them again because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God so that the Gentiles might become an offering."*

Matthew 10:5-6 when He sent the twelve apostles out originally, *"Then these twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions `Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel."*

Paul started out preaching the gospel to the Jews. But he had a definite change of ministry in Acts 18:5 *"When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ, but when the Jews opposed Paul and became abusive he shook his clothes out in protest and said to them, `Your blood be on your own heads. I'm clear of my responsibility. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."*

*** To Believers (vs. 23-33): meet their needs.**

A LOOK AT PAUL'S TURBO CHARGED MINISTRY

1. PAUL'S MESSAGE: Good News! v. 16 *"To be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel."*

2. PAUL'S MOTIVE: God's Glory! v17 *"Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God."*

3. PAUL'S MIRACLES: Holy Spirit! v. 19 *"By the power and signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit."*

4. PAUL'S MINISTRY AREA: Mediterranean. v. 19b. *"...so from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum I have fully proclaimed the Gospel of Christ."*

5. PAUL'S METHOD: Church Planting v. 20 *"It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation."*

II. HOW CAN I HAVE A TURBO CHARGED MINISTRY? (Verse 14)

Looking at Paul's life, we discover the 6 principles:

v. 14 *"I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another."* Every believer is a minister.

AN EFFECTIVE MINISTRY IS ...

1. **based on God's grace.** v. 15 *"I have written to you quite boldly on some points as if to remind you of them again because of the grace God gave me to be a minister."*

People give the excuse: "I've got too many faults for God to use me. I've got a lot of growing to do. I could never have a ministry. I still sin."

2. **built on God's word.** v 16 *"God gave me the grace to be a minister of Christ Jesus to Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God."*

An example of this in Paul's life is in Acts 20:32 *"Now I commit you to God and to the Word of His grace which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions."*

3. **operated for God's glory.** (vs. 17-18)
"Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I've said and done." **No ministry that's going to last is built to promote a personality.**

4. **performed in God's power not in human ingenuity and technique.**
v. 19 *"by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit."*

Spiritual ministry needs to be done in spiritual power

John 15:5 *"I am the vine and you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit. Apart from Me you can do nothing."*

If you get unplugged from the power source, you're not going to get much accomplished.

Zachariah 4:6 says *"Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, says the Lord."*

Effective ministry is based on God's grace, built on God's word, operating for God's glory, performed in God's power and...

5. **planned according to God's purpose.** (vs. 20-24) *"It has always been my ambition to preach the Gospel where Christ was not known so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. Rather as it is written, those that were not told about him will see and those who have not heard will understand. This is why I've often been hindered from coming to you."*

He was very strategic. He went to key cities in the Roman Empire, he picked out places like Philippi that were centers of trade and commerce and travel so that when he planted a church there then the message would be spread to vital places.

v. 23 *"But now that there is no more place to work in these regions and since I have been longing for many years to see you I plan to do so when I go to Spain."*
I'm going to take a missionary offering. You guys can help finance me to Spain."

He has a plan and every ministry that is effective is planned.

Proverbs 16:9 *"We should make our plans counting on God to direct us."*

16:1 *"We can make plans but the final outcome is in God's hands."*

24:3-4 *"Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts."*

13:16 *"A wise man thinks ahead, a fool doesn't and even brags about it."*

22:3 *"A prudent man foresees the difficulties ahead and prepares for them. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences."*

27:12 *"A sensible man watches for problems ahead and prepares to meet them. The simpleton never looks and suffers the consequences."*

"Can't we just trust God for the future? Can't we just go with the flow, however the Spirit leads?"

14:16 *"A wise man is cautious and avoids danger. A fool plunges ahead with great confidence."*

19:2 *"It is dangerous and sinful to rush into the unknown."*

14:8 *"The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts"*

Decision Making:

"What a shame, yes, how stupid to decide before knowing the facts." 18:13

"We toss the coin but it is the Lord who controls the decision." 16:33

Should we keep on working on our plan even if it's not succeeding? Some people are so committed to plans they won't let them go.

"It is pleasant to see plans develop, that's why fools refuse to give them up even when they're wrong." 13:19

6. is backed by God's people.

Paul mentions two ways that these Romans could participate in the ministry.

* **Financially** (vs. 25-29) *"Now I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the saints. Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. They were pleased to do it and indeed they owe it to themselves for if the Gentiles have shared with Jews' spiritual blessings they owe to the Jews to share with them material blessings." The Gospel came out of Israel now here was their opportunity to give back and help them in their time of need. "After I've completed this task and made sure they have received this fruit [I've taken the offering that you have given to Jerusalem] I will go to Spain and visit you on the way. I know that when I come to you I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ."*

* **Prayerfully** _____ (vs. 30-33) *"I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God."*

"You join me in my struggle by praying to God for me." That's very specific. He says, "Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea. Pray that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there. Pray that by God's will I may come to you in joy and together with you be refreshed. May the God of peace be with you all. Amen."

I covet your prayers. If you want to make me happy, tell me you're praying for me. I need the prayer and you need the practice. Pray for our ministry. Pray that God blesses Friends Church!!

**Turbo Charged Ministry comes from a Turbo Charged
Love Relationship with Jesus and the Father!**