



SDG Discussion Guide

"Propelled by Grace"

Romans 15:14-33

May 7, 2017

Group Interaction: [The following content is meant to supplement the sermon, to offer further points of interaction with the sermon text. Also, feel free to ask your own questions to facilitate your own discussion regarding the sermon or text.]

1. Who has been a Paul to you, helping you to understand the Christian faith?
2. What is something you appreciate or admire about Paul and his ministry?
3. Why do you suspect Paul would feel the need to write an encouraging word at this point in the overall letter to the Romans (vv 14-15)?
4. Why do you think Paul now switches to write so much about himself?
5. Paul's ambition was to preach to those who had never heard about Christ (v 20). To what ministry or service do you feel God is calling you?
6. Looking over your bank accounts and your schedule this past month -- where you spent your money and your time -- what do these areas tell you about your priorities? If someone you did not know looked at this same information, what would he or she conclude about your ambition in life?

How can your small group help you work on your ambition? (Spend some time here talking with your group members. God may want to reveal something you have needed or wanted in this regard.)

7. Where do you sense God may be calling you in furthering his kingdom: Prayer for those around you and the world? Commitment to the poor? Sharing your life of faith with others you know? Teaching God's values to children? Other?

Spend some time in prayer. Go slow. Ask the Holy Spirit to come... and to speak to you about your heart and soul. Ask him to show you what is in the way (if anything) of his ambition for your life -- what may be blocking how he wants to influence others and the world around you, through you. Ask him to help you remove any internal blockages there. Then... ask him to replenish you... so that you may know of his presence and redirection in your life of faith and service. Then sit in silence and see what else God may be speaking to you. Be encouraged this week to respond to what you may hear in this time of prayer.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).