

The Truth That Transforms: The Book Of Romans
“The Truth About Valuing People”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
November 28, 2021

Big Idea: If we want real life change, we must allow God’s Word to transform us.

We Can Value People In Our Lives By:

1. Appreciating and Honoring Them.

“I commend to you our sister **Phoebe**, a **servant** of the church in Cenchrea. I ask you to **receive** her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to **give her any help** she may need from you, for she has been a **great help** to many people, including me. **Romans 16:1-2 (NIV)**

Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my **fellow workers** in Christ Jesus. **They risked their lives for me**. Not only I but all the **churches** of the Gentiles are grateful to them. **Greet also the church that meets at their house. Romans 16:3-5a (NIV)**

Greet my dear friend **Epenetus**, who was the **first convert** to Christ in the province of Asia. **Romans 16:5b (NIV)**

Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you. Greet **Andronicus and Junias**, my **relatives** who have **been in prison** with me. They are **outstanding among the apostles**, and they were in Christ before I was. **Romans 16:6-7 (NIV)**

Greet Ampliatus, whom I **love** in the Lord. **Greet Urbanus**, our **fellow worker** in Christ, and my **dear friend Stachys**. **Greet Apelles**, tested and approved in **Christ**. Greet those who belong to the **household** of **Aristobulus**. **Romans 16:8-10 (NIV)**

Greet Herodion, my **relative**. Greet those in the **household of Narcissus** who are in the Lord. **Romans 16:11 (NIV)**

Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who **work hard** in the Lord. Greet my **dear friend Persis**, another woman who has **worked very hard** in the Lord. **Romans 16:12 (NIV)**

Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too. **Romans 16:13 (NIV)**

Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the brothers with them. **Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus** and his sister, and **Olympas** and all the saints with them. **Romans 16:14-15 (NIV)**

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. **Romans 16:16 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

2. Staying Away From Divisive People

I urge you, brothers, to **watch out for those who cause divisions** and **put obstacles** in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. **Keep away from them.** For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, **but their own appetites.** By smooth talk and flattery **they deceive the minds of naive people.** **Everyone has heard about your obedience,** so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. **The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. Romans 16:17-20 (NIV)**

Timothy, my fellow worker, sends his greetings to you, as do **Lucius, Jason** and **Sosipater, my relatives.** I, **Tertius,** who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord. **Gaius, whose hospitality** I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings. **Erastus,** who is the city's director of public works, and our brother **Quartus** send you their greetings. **Romans 16:21-24 (NIV)**

Doxology

Now to him who is **able to establish you** by my gospel and the proclamation of **Jesus Christ,** according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the **eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey Him-- to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.**

Romans 16:25-27 (NIV)

- **Who can I encourage and honor this week?**

I will answer the prayer of Jesus by:

- Valuing and appreciating someone this week
- Building relationships inside the church
- Accepting Christ as my Lord and Savior

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Big Idea: If we want real life change, we must allow God’s Word to transform us.

Open your group with a prayer.

Icebreaker: Describe briefly about your first best friend.

What old friends do you still keep in touch with?

We Can Value People In Our Lives By:

1. Appreciating and Honoring Them

Read Romans 16:1-16

What kind of things does Paul commend in the persons mentioned in 16:1-16?

What does this say about how we should view success?

In your opinion, how close did Paul let people get to him?

Looking at this list of people, how balanced was Paul in relationships?

Although Paul had never been to Rome, what does this greeting show Paul’s perception of the church?

2. Staying Away From Divisive People

Read Romans 16:17-20

What divisions and obstacles are the people to avoid?

Look up Romans 3:8, 6:1, 15; 7:7, 9:14

Are there divisive people who are trying to lure me away from biblical teaching?

Read Romans 16:21-27

What does it mean for you that God is described as the God of hope and peace?

How can we know God in this way, especially since in Romans 1 Paul reveals God's wrath was coming?

How do you work between the desire for unity and the desire for truth?

Avoid them? Talk about them? Confront them?

Who are some people you know that you consider servants of Christ?

What can you do to help our church lead all nations into a relationship with Christ?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.
