

Romans 16 - Personal Greetings

Summary:

At the end of this magnificent book, Paul is still full of energy and passion for people and God! Despite not having planted the church Paul is able to greet 27 people, 2 families and 3 house churches by name. This list of people gives a wonderful insight to the church in Rome!

Phoebe, who was delivering the letter, could well have been single but has been and continues to use her gifts for Jesus and the church.

Priscilla and Aquila are a model couple, who are prepared to move around, work hard and takes risks in support of Paul and the mission

In the list there are 9 women...including a mother and a wife that Paul recognises are playing a hugely significant role in the work.

The list of names is very diverse: the church would have contained Jews and Gentiles, slaves and free folk, the rich and famous and as well as the obscure and unknown.

Paul cares for people and knows individual names... surely like God who calls us all by name.

However the way he describes the people shows they are much more than a list to him...they are sisters, fellow workers, friends, saints!

All these folk are 'In Christ' the key to their identity and working together. Despite being spread across the city they love one another. This love for each other, they are encouraged to express in a holy kiss.

Application:

Please select from the following questions and do not attempt them all. Please encourage all to take part, to be honest and make room to pray for one another.

1. Was there anything shared on Sunday that you did not understand and needs clarifying?
2. What did God say to you on Sunday and what are you going to do as a result?
3. How do you express your love for the church?
4. What words do you use when describing the church? How can you develop your love for the people in The Crown?
5. Are there any areas that you are tempted to go it alone in your Christian life? How do you overcome this?
6. What does / has caused division between you and other Christians? How can you watch out for this in the future?