

Romans 15 Study Guide - The God We Need

Summary

Paul closes Romans with encouragements that point us to who God is and what He brings into our lives. In Romans 15, he highlights four attributes of God that every believer desperately needs: endurance, encouragement, hope, and peace. These aren't abstract ideas; they're lived realities given through Christ and the Spirit. Because of this, believers can endure cheerfully, be comforted, live with unshakable hope, and rest in God's peace no matter the circumstances.

Key Scriptures

Romans 15:1–7 – God of endurance and encouragement.

Romans 15:13 – God of hope fills us with joy and peace.

Romans 15:33 – God of peace be with you all.

2 Peter 3:9 – God's patience in salvation.

Philippians 4:6–7 – Peace of God surpasses understanding.

Questions

1. Why does Paul call God the “God of Endurance”?

God patiently endures with us, not wishing any to perish but giving time for people to repent (2 Peter 3:9). His endurance is *cheerful patience*, and we're called to reflect that by bearing with others' weaknesses.

2. How can we practically demonstrate God's endurance in our relationships?

By remembering how patient God has been with us, and by choosing to build others up rather than tear them down even when their growth is slow.

3. What role does the Holy Spirit play in God being the “God of Encouragement”? What does it practically look like?

The Holy Spirit is our comforter, present with us in trials. He strengthens us when life's difficulties press in and reminds us of God's promises.

4. How does Scripture itself encourage us?

It's literally a track record of stories of God's faithfulness. Daniel in the lions' den, the Hebrew boys in the fire, Paul and Silas in prison, Moses and the red seas, it's all to remind us that the same God who delivered them can deliver us.

5. Pastor spoke about the dangers of mixing up the order of faith and hope.

What's the right order between faith and hope?

Faith comes first—placing confidence in who God is, not just in our situation. That faith produces hope: a confident expectation that God will remain faithful no matter what.

6. How is God's peace different from the world's peace?

The world's peace depends on circumstances and the absence of conflict, but God's peace is rooted in His presence. It surpasses understanding, guarding our hearts and minds in Christ even in chaos.

Life Application: Which of the four attributes (endurance, encouragement, hope, peace) do you most need in this season? What practical step can you take to lean into God for that need?

Family Spotlight

Object Lesson:

Take four index cards or sheets of paper. Write "Endurance," "Encouragement," "Hope," and "Peace" on them. Place them around the room. As a family, have each person walk to the one they feel they need most right now. Share why you chose that word and read a verse connected to it (Romans 15:5, 15:4, 15:13, 15:33). End with prayer, thanking God that He gives us all four through Jesus.

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- How can we practically demonstrate God's endurance in our relationships?
- What role does the Holy Spirit play in God being the “God of Encouragement”?
- How does Scripture itself encourage us?
- What's the right order between faith and hope?
- How is God's peace different from the world's peace?
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