



Romans 16:1-23 Study Guide

1. Read Romans 16:1-16. Make a list of the descriptive words Paul uses about folks in the church. Take a few minutes to discuss each of the characteristics.
 - a. Do we see these characteristics in our culture?
 - b. Do we see these characteristics among ourselves?
 - c. What barriers keep us from being more like the early church?
2. How does the gospel change us? Rom. 12:1-2: *“In light of God’s mercy, I urge you to offer yourselves up as a living sacrifice...”*. How might an understanding of God’s mercy motivate us towards sacrificial love?
3. Notice that Paul describes people as being “in the Lord” or “in Christ” 11x in this chapter. Jesus prayed for us in John 17:23, *“I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me.”* What could the answer to that prayer look like in 2017?
4. Read Romans 16:17-20. What false teachings come to mind that can sneak their way into the body of Christ? What does it mean *“to be wise about what is good and innocent about what is evil”*? How can we protect ourselves in a world that is filled with evil?
5. Read Romans 16:21-23. What are characteristics of the people working with Paul in Corinth? Why is it good to work together in teams?

Application

Take a few moments to pray through the characteristics of the early church and ask God to help us at CFC to emulate these.