

“Paul’s Two-Fold Mission”
A Study of the Book of Romans
Pastor Tim Allen

Key Truth: According to God’s sovereign plan, Paul’s mission was both to reach the lost and to support the saints.

Paul was a Christian missionary, but he was also a Christian pastor, and he had a strong desire to care for the flock of God, the saints. He charges the Ephesian elders in Acts 20: “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28). He wasn’t charging them to do something he wasn’t also intentional about doing himself. Paul’s mission was to the lost, but it was also to the found. His mission was two-fold: (1) to evangelize the lost where Christ had not yet been named, and (2) to care for the saints – those whom God called to himself through the apostles’ ministry.

DISCUSS

Read **Romans 15:22-33** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled **“Paul’s Two-Fold Mission.”**

DIG IN

1. An Anticipated Mission (Romans 15:22-24)

What is Paul’s anticipated mission (v. 24)?

Why had Paul previously been hindered from coming to visit the Roman Christians (see vv. 20-22)?

Why is now the time for him to come to them (v. 23)?

Why does Paul only want to visit the Romans, and not remain there?

2. An Intermediate Mission (Romans 15:25-27)

What is the intermediate mission Paul needs to accomplish before coming to the Romans (v. 25)? Why is this important?

What does this tell us about Paul’s Two-Fold Mission? In what ways might caring for the saints also help to fulfill the Great Commission?

What was it important that the Gentile Christians of Macedonia and Achaia contribute to the needs of the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem (v. 27)?

3. A God-Directed Mission (Romans 15:28-33)

How did God ultimately lead Paul to Rome? In what ways did God change Paul’s original plans?

What is Paul’s prayer for his time in Jerusalem? In what ways did God answer this prayer?

DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?