**“We Can Do This… Together”**

Going deeper in Romans 15:7-13

**INTRODUCTION** – The Jewish believers and Gentile believers in Rome have had some significant disagreements. The Apostle Paul has just finished speaking to these disagreements and has called them to stop judging one another and focus on serving one another and God. Then he says this:

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 7 So accept one another in the same way Jesus Christ accepted you, in order to bring glory to God. 8 While staying true to God’s purposes Jesus served the Jewish insiders showing God is faithful to his promises 9 so that the non-Jewish outsiders might glorify God for his mercy, as it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name.” (2 Samuel 22:50 & Psalm 18:49) 10 Again, it says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles with his people.” (Deuteronomy 32:43) 11 And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples.” (Psalm 117:1) 12 And again, Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him.” (Isaiah 11:10) 13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. What are the real-life ways that Jesus has accepted each of us. What are the practical implications of this for accepting others?

2. How has God’s faithfulness been important in your journey of faith?

3. How did Jesus Christ show mercy or grace to non-Jewish outsiders (Gentiles)?

4. What do all the Old Testament scriptures that Paul quotes say about God’s intentions for Gentiles from the beginning?

5. What stands out to you in verse 13? How has the Lord given you hope?

6. Why is the Holy Spirit important in living with joy, peace, and hope?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord for his amazing grace and great faithfulness.

\*Thank the Lord for his full acceptance of you and ask him to give you the power to accept others who are different than you. Name for him those you are struggling with.

\*Tell the Lord Jesus how grateful you are for the hope that he has given you. Ask him to empower you to be an agent of his hope.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

The Lord Jesus Christ has given you hope for this life and for the next. How will that hope shape how you live this week? Who are the people he is calling you to share that hope with in word and deed?