

A Multitude of Contributions

Romans 16:3-16

4.23.17 | Sermon Discussion Questions

1. This week's message dealt with serving in the kingdom of God and the roles in which we do so. How do we engage in serving God? Before today, how would you have defined what serving God was and who would you have said was supposed to do it?
2. Sometimes reading scripture can be misleading because we may get the idea that only a few people, like Paul or Peter, are the ones who serve the kingdom when in reality there are many other people involved. Have you or someone you know ever felt this way? What gave you that impression?
3. Romans 16 gives us a glimpse into how the kingdom of God moves forward and the role that all of us, not just certain people up front, have to play in it. Pastor Jim then worked his way through the list of names in the chapter, explaining their role in the kingdom and how that might look today. How did you feel about his breakdown of the list? Spend some time discussing the list and roles he described:
 - Priscilla and Aquilla- Small Group Leaders/Sunday School Teachers
 - Priscilla and Aquilla- those who have left a church to help others plant a church
 - Epenetus- those who came to faith a long time ago and were the first in their families to do so
 - Mary, Tryphena, Tryphesa, Persis- those who do a variety of work for the church
 - Andronichus and Junis- those who serve as missionaries and vocational ministry
 - Ampliatus, Urbanus, Stachys- those who befriend and support pastors and ministry leaders
 - Apelles- those who endure suffering and difficulty
 - The households of Aristobulus, Herodian, Narcissus- those who work for powerful people of status and position
 - Rufus- those who have witnessed God's previous great deeds and carry that testimony forward
 - Rufus' mother- those who have served as spiritual mothers and fathers
 - Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and other brothers and sisters- those who have accepted Christ in the midst of difficult circumstances and remained faithful even if circumstances didn't change
4. The goal of today's message was for God to encourage all of us as we find ourselves on this list. Where are you able to do so? How did it encourage you? If you didn't, we know this list is not the only list. What would your contribution be, what has God called you to do? Read the following passages (or use portions as you feel led) and take sometime to pray and encourage each other in the service and calling each one of you have to be a part of God's kingdom work.
 - Romans 12:4-8
 - 1 Corinthians 12