

Full Circle

Romans 16:17–27

- False doctrine poisons the Church by deceiving the sheep.

vv. 17–20

- It takes a village to be the Body.

vv. 21–23

- We are to be unashamed of the Gospel to the glory of God.

vv. 25–27

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Paul is imploring the church at Rome to be on guard for those that would distort the gospel in verses 17-18. What are some ways that the gospel that is laid out in the book of Romans could be distorted?
2. What types of distortions of the gospel are common in our modern Western culture? Think about both secular and religious distortions or misrepresentations. How would you correct those errors from the book of Romans (or elsewhere in Scripture)?
3. What comes to mind when you read Romans 16:20? How does this change our attitude toward living in a culture that is hostile to our faith?
4. Read Romans 16:1-16, 21-23. What can be gleaned from this long list of names? In what ways is this “profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness” as it says in 2 Timothy 3:16?
5. Does it concern you that v24 is not present in the ESV Bible (and others)? Why do you suppose that is? Do you have any questions? Feel free to reach out to Brett or any of the elders to discuss the textual critical reasons behind the update.
6. Reflect on our journey through the letter to the Romans. What do you give praise to God for? How has it changed your life? Your thinking? Your spiritual state?
7. After having the fullness of the gospel espoused in the book of Romans, and distilled into the final doxology, do you feel more empowered to live unashamed of the gospel?

MEMORY VERSES: ROMANS 1:16-17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

