

Romans 16 & The Good Book series conclusion  
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**Reflection & Discussion Questions**

**The book of Romans requires some diligence and faithful study to really understand**

Romans was written to the church at Rome but holds truth for Pulpit Rock too.

\*How does understanding the context and meaning of the message for those it was written to help us understand what it should mean to us in our culture?

\*Have you used any of the thoughts from The Good Book series in your study of Romans this fall? What has been helpful?

**When God gave us the gift of Scripture, He gave it to us in the context of community**

Romans would have been received in collaborative community.

Read and discuss Romans 16:1-16 (NIV)

*1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. 2 I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me.*

*3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. 4 They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. 5 Greet also the church that meets at their house.*

*Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia. 6 Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you. 7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Jews who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. 8 Greet Ampliatus, my dear friend in the Lord. 9 Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my dear friend Stachys. 10 Greet Apelles, whose fidelity to Christ has stood the test. Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus. 11 Greet Herodion, my fellow Jew. Greet those in the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord. 12 Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who work hard in the Lord. Greet my dear friend Persis, another woman who has worked very hard in the Lord. 13 Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too.*

*14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the other brothers and sisters with them.*

*15 Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the Lord's people who are with them.*

*16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings.*

\*What beauty do you see in this passage we would often skip over?

\*What would it look like for us as the modern church to become a collaborative community? What are some of the reasons we don't see more of that now?

**God hides himself in the one another**

We clearly need each other to know God.

\*What would your Romans 16 list look like? Who would you list that has helped you, been relied upon, you've learned from and admired?

\*How are you pursuing deep connectedness with believers these days?

Read and discuss Romans 16:17-20

*17 I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. 18 For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people. 19 Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. 20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.*

\*What warnings does Paul give here?

\*When should you separate and divide yourself off from the Christians in your life? What characteristics do we need to develop to keep us unified when we want to separate?

\*What is the Spirit showing you about cherishing and sticking with each other?

\*What are you still wrestling over from our time in Romans and The Good Book? Who could join you in your wrestling?