

**Oktoba 22, 2017**

Watu Wanahusika Kwetu

Ndugu na dada zangu, mimi mwenyewe ninajihakikishia ninyi wenyewe mmejaa wema, mjazwa na ujuzi wote, na mnaweza kufundana. Lakini nimekuandikia kwa namna ya kutisha, sehemu kukukumbusha yale unayoyajua. Ninawaandikia kwa njia hii kwa sababu ya neema niliyopewa na Mungu. Inanisaidia kuwa mtumishi wa Kristo Yesu kwa Mataifa.

Mimi ninafanya kazi kama kuhani wa injili ya Mungu ili sadaka ya Wayahudi inaweza kukubalika na kutakaswa na Roho Mtakatifu. Kwa hiyo katika Kristo Yesu ninajisifu kuhusu vitu vinavyohusiana na Mungu. Sijui kusema juu ya kitu chochote ila kile Kristo amefanya kupitia kwangu kuleta utii wa Mataifa. Alifanya hivyo kwa kile nilichosema na kile nilichokifanya, kwa nguvu ya ishara na maajabu, na kwa nguvu ya Roho wa Mungu. Kwa hiyo nimekamilisha mzunguko wa kuhubiri injili ya Kristo kutoka Yerusalemu kila njia karibu na Illyriamu.

Kwa njia hii, nina lengo la kuhubiri Injili ambako hawajapata habari za Kristo bado, hivyo siwezi kujenga juu ya msingi wa mtu mwingine. Badala yake, kama ilivyoandikwa, Wale ambao hawakuambiwa kuhusu Yeye wataona, na wale ambao hawakusikia wataelewa.

Ndiyo sababu nimezuiwa mara nyingi sana kuja kukukuta. Lakini sasa, kwa kuwa sina nafasi yoyote ya kufanya kazi katika mikoa hii tena, na tangu nimekuta kuja kukuona kwa miaka mingi, nitakutembelea ninapoenda Hispania. Natumaini kukuona wakati ninapitia. Na natumaini utanipeleka njiani pale, baada ya kuwa na upya mara kwa mara katika kampuni yako. **Warumi 15:14-24**

**Wiki ijayo:** Ukarimu, Warumi 15: 25-33

**October 22, 2017**

People Matter To Us

My brothers and sisters, I myself am convinced you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and are able to teach each other. But I've written to you in a sort of daring way, partly to remind you of what you already know. I'm writing to you in this way because of the grace that was given to me by God. It helps me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles.

I'm working as a priest of God's gospel so the offering of the Gentiles can be acceptable and made holy by the Holy Spirit. So in Christ Jesus I brag about things that have to do with God. I don't dare speak about anything except what Christ has done through me to bring about the obedience of the Gentiles. He did it by what I've said and what I've done, by the power of signs and wonders, and by the power of God's Spirit. So I've completed the circuit of preaching Christ's gospel from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum.

In this way, I have a goal to preach the gospel where they haven't heard of Christ yet, so I won't be building on someone else's foundation. Instead, as it's written, Those who hadn't been told about Him will see, and those who hadn't heard will understand.

That's why I've been stopped so many times from coming to see you. But now, since I don't have any place to work in these regions anymore, and since I've wanted to come see you for many years, I'll visit you when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while I'm passing through. And I hope you will send me on my way there, after I have first been reenergized by some time in your company. **Romans 15:14-24**

**Next week:** Generosity, Romans 15:25-33

Oktober 22, 2017

Watu Wanahusika Kwetu

*"Ukristo ambao hauanza na mtu binafsi, hauanza. Ukristo unaoishi na mwisho wa mtu binafsi. "Hivyo, utakatifu, wakati wote ni kijamii, pia ni ya kibinafsi. "Ni ubusiano wa kibinafsi na Mungu, ambao unabusisha mabadiliko (hatua kwa hatua, ghafla au wote) kutoka ufalme wa nafsi hadi Ufalme wa Mungu kupitia neema na nguvu ya Kristo" (E. Stanley Jones, 1942).*

*"Ni safari ngumu, kifo kwa nafsi-ya uongo-na hakuna mtu anataka kufa. Lakini ni njia pekee ya uzima, uburu, amani, kwa upendo wa kweli " (Benson & Benson, 1989).*

*Je! Paulo alipata Hispania? Hakuna ushabidi wowote aliyofanya. Lakini tamaa yake ya kufanya hivyo, na ukweli aliyoundika Warumi kama sehemu ya maandalizi kwa safari hiyo, inaonyesha somo muhimu sana kwetu sisi wote. Labda Mungu wakati mwingine anatuwezesha ndoto ya kile anachotaka tufanye, si lazima tuweze kuyatimiza yote-ambayo yanaweza kutufanya tujivunia na kujitegemea-lakini hivyo tutachukua hatua za kwanza za kuzifikia. Na pengine wale hatua ya kwanza (kama wao kuonekana kwetu) ni kweli jambo muhimu Mungu kweli anataka sisi kufanya. Paulo huenda hakupata Hispania. Hiyo haijalishi; Injili ilipatikana buko hivi karibuni hivi karibuni. Nini kilichostabili basi, na kimesema sana katika historia yote ya kanisa, ni kwamba, kama sehemu ya mpango wake wa kwenda Hispania, Paulo aliandika Warumi. Hatupaswi kamwe kudharau kile ambacho Mungu atafanya kupitia vitu tunavyoona kama hatua ndogo kwa mwisho mwingi (NT Wright, 2004).*

Bwana ameweka nani juu ya moyo wako?

Ni nani atakayepata neema na upendo wa Kristo kupitia kwako?

October 22, 2017

People Matter To Us

*"Christianity that does not begin with the individual, does not begin. Christianity that ends with the individual ends." Thus, holiness, while it is always social, is also intimately personal. "It is a personal relationship with God, which involves a change (gradual, sudden or both) from the kingdom of self to the Kingdom of God through the grace and power of Christ" (E. Stanley Jones, 1942).*

*"It is a harrowing journey, a death to self—the false self—and no one wants to die. But it is the only path to life, to freedom, to peace, to true love" (Benson & Benson, 1989).*

*Did Paul ever get to Spain? There is no evidence whatever that he did. But his desire to do so, and the fact he wrote Romans as part of the preparation for such a trip, points out an extremely important lesson for us all. Perhaps God sometimes allows us to dream dreams of what He wants us to do, not necessarily so we can fulfill all of them—that might make us proud and self-satisfied—but so we will take the first steps toward fulfilling them. And perhaps those first steps (as they appear to us) are in fact the key thing God actually wants us to do. Paul may not have gotten to Spain. That didn't matter; the gospel got there fairly soon anyway. What mattered then, and has mattered enormously in the whole history of the church, is that, as part of his plan to go to Spain, Paul wrote Romans. We should never underestimate what God will do through things which we see as small steps to a larger end (NT Wright, 2004).*

Whom has the Lord placed on your heart?

Who will experience the grace & love of Christ through you?