DISCUSSION GUIDE

IMPACT INCREASE
Romans 15:14-21
Not Ashamed (Romans) – Week 42

ICEBREAKER: What's your favorite subject to discuss? Why?

OVERVIEW: If you are a Christian, then God wants you to serve Him. You were created to serve (Gal 1:5), saved to serve (Eph 2:10), gifted to serve (1 Pt 4:10), and commanded to serve (Rm 12:11). In this discussion we will go deeper with how to serve God effectively.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's sermon?)

2. What are some ways that you have served the Lord in the past?

3. Why is it important to serve the Lord?

4. What are some ways that every Christian is commanded to serve the Lord?

5. Read 1 Peter 4:10-11 and answer the following questions.
    a. What does this passage teach about spiritual gifts?
    b. What does it mean to be "good stewards of the varied grace of God"?
    c. What is your spiritual gift?
    d. Are you using your spiritual gift to serve others in the church? Explain.

6. Read Romans 15:14-21 and refer to the sermon for the following questions. In referring to his readers as "brothers and sisters" (v. 14), Paul was expressing his deep affection for them. How can expressing your affection for others increase your impact on them? Do you need to get better at expressing affection? Explain.

7. In verse 14, Paul also expressed words of affirmation. What positive things did he say to his readers? Why is it important to give words of affirmation to others? Do you need to improve in this area? Explain.

8. In Romans 15:15, Paul wrote about his boldness, which he displayed throughout his ministry. What is boldness, and why is it important to make an impact for Christ? Do you need to grow in boldness? Explain.

9. How can a Christian grow in boldness? For help, see the following: Mt 10:28-31; Eph 6:19-20; 2 Cor 3:12; Acts 4:31; Phil 1:14; Rm 1:16; 2 Tim 1:8; Ps 118:6.

The Last Word: "The world has yet to see what God can do with a person fully consecrated to him." Henry Varley

CHURCH ACADIANA