



*Unity for God's Sake*

*PASTOR ZAC HESS • ROMANS 15:1-13*

*After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,*

**Revelation 7:9**

*and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”*

**Revelation 7:10**



*And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,*

**Revelation 7:11**

*saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”*

**Revelation 7:12**

*We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.*

**Romans 15:1**





*Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.*

**Romans 15:2**

*For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on me.”*

**Romans 15:3**

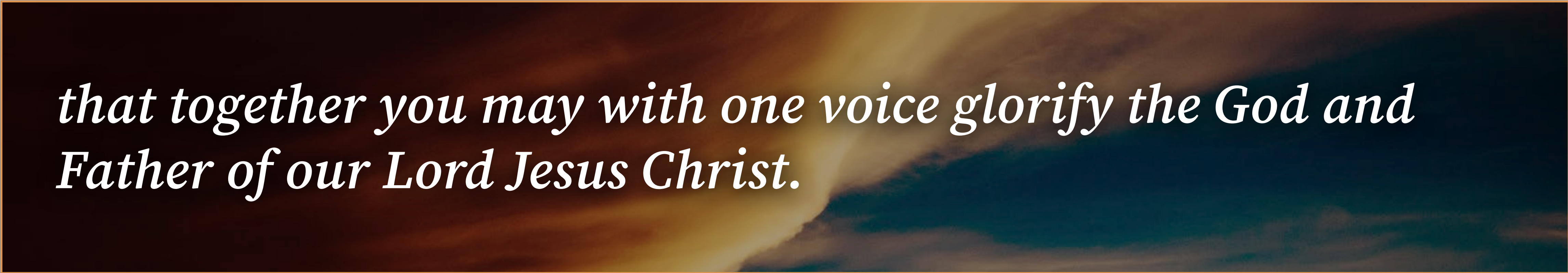


*For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

**Romans 15:4**

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,*

**Romans 15:5**



*that together you may with one voice glorify the God and  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Romans 15:6**





*Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you,  
for the glory of God.*

**Romans 15:7**

*For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,*

**Romans 15:8**

*and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles, and sing to Your name.”*



*And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people.”*

**Romans 15:10**

*And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol Him.”*

**Romans 15:11**

*And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even He who arises to rule the Gentiles; in Him will the Gentiles hope.”*

**Romans 15:12**



*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

**Romans 15:13**

**Christ-exalting service and acceptance  
display God-glorifying unity.**

God's people display unity as the strong  
bear the burdens of the weak (15:1–3).



God's people display unity through  
the endurance and encouragement  
of the Bible (15:4,5).



**The Bible was written for our instruction.**



**Scripture produces perseverance and encouragement.**





A key goal of reading the Bible is to produce hope.

God's people display unity as we welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us (15:6,7).



If we grasp justification, that we are accepted in spite of our deficiencies and flaws, we will be enabled to accept others despite their deficiencies and flaws. In fact, the way you can tell how much you understand the Gospel is to look at how much you love people despite their flaws. Do you say: *If God overlooks my sins through Christ, how can I fail to do so with this person?*

**Tim Keller**



God's people display unity because we  
hope in the same Savior (15:8–13).



# Applications