

A few points and questions to consider:

In this last chapter of Romans, 16 of the 27 verses are devoted to Paul's commendation of persons who were critical to his ministry. As you read back through this list (Romans 16:1-16), reflect on the persons who have been or are instrumental in your spiritual maturity. Write their names below.

Some may already be in Heaven. For those who are not, consider calling them, writing them a letter or email, or sending them a card to let them how God used them in your life.

Now, consider those to whom you have been a mentor. Do the same with them, encouraging them to continue in faithful obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul concludes his letter with a benediction in verses 25-27. As you did last week, re-read and meditate on the words of this passage.

Ponder how Paul describes God. Note how you've experienced God as He is described by Paul.

Pastor Brad and Kenny closed this session encouraging those who are not involved in a Sunday School Connect Group to become involved. There are classes meeting in the sanctuary, in the gym, and other areas that allow for adequate social distancing. There is also an option to attend Sunday School online using Zoom if your doctor or work environment is requiring you to stay home. Please contact the church office (865-982-8785) or email connect@madisonavenuebc.org for more information.

Mid-week Bible studies will continue in September with Pastor Greg. More information on his studies will be made available as soon as possible.

Once again, we encourage you to dig a little deeper into this passage by preparing a HEAR Report. As noted in previous weeks, HEAR is an acronym for Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond.

- Read thru this passage and HIGHLIGHT a verse(s) that you found especially powerful.
- EXPLAIN the verse. What was the context and purpose for what was written and when it was written.
- APPLY the verse to yourself
- Lastly, RESPOND to the verse. Maybe there are changes God wants you to make in your life w.r.t. the verse. Or your response may be a prayer to God. It may be praising Him. However you feel led to respond.

As has been pointed out by others, the goal isn't for you / me to jot down a "profound truth" but to note the "truth you found."

Please email us and let us know how this passage spoke to you. Also let us know if you have any general comments, suggestions, etc. for this midweek Bible study program. *We want and need to hear from you.* Email address: connect@madisonavenuebc.org

Name: _____

H.E.A.R. REPORT for _____ (Bible passage).

Highlight a verse(s)

Explain what the text means.

Possible questions to consider: *Why was this written? To whom was it originally written? How does it fit with the verses immediately before and after it? Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book? What is He intending to communicate through this text?*

Apply "the significance of these verses to you personally"

Possible questions to consider: *How can this help me? What does this mean to me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What does this mean to me? How does this apply to my family, my church family, my community? What is God saying to me?*

Respond

Matthew 7:7 (ESV), "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Source: Growing Up, Robby Gallaty