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GRACE
CHANGES EVERYTHING



WEEK 15 | The Refreshing Visitor

PRAYER

Loving Father, my heart rejoices as I realise the depth of love you have for me. You truly are my glorious God of Hope, and I thank you that this is not the doubtful hope of the world, but a definite hope that is securely founded on your unchangeable Word. Enable me to share this truth with those with whom I come in contact today, to your praise and glory. In Christ's name, Amen.

From [Prayer Knowing Jesus](#)

WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Name one person whose home you would love to visit? Why them?

NOTES

WORD

²² This is the reason why I have so often been hindered from coming to you. ²³ But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, ²⁴ I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. ²⁵ At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. ²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. ²⁷ For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings. ²⁸ When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. ²⁹ I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

³⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, ³¹ that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. ³³ May the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

[ROMANS 15:22-33](#)

Paul turns to his plans to visit Rome. He longs to come and visit the Christians there on his way to preach the gospel in Spain. He feels the time is right, now that every region nearer Jerusalem has been introduced to the gospel. He wants to come to Rome to enjoy their company and to receive their help with funding his work in Spain (Romans 15:22-29).

Before he can come, though, he must make a dangerous trip to deliver a gift of financial aid from Gentile Christians to the poor Jewish Christians in Jerusalem. He asks his readers to pray urgently with him that he will be delivered from the unbelieving Jewish religious leaders who wish to kill him and that the Jewish Christians will receive the gift from their Gentile brothers in Christ. Finally, he asks them to pray that, once this is done, he will be able to come and be refreshed with them in Rome (Romans 15:30-33).

From Bibleref.com

GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = none at all; 10 = extremely,) how would you rate how "cared-for" people feel when they are around you? Why have you rated yourself this way?
2. Paul makes a dangerous trip to give a financial gift to poorer Christians in Jerusalem. Does danger or inconvenience affect your personal ability to give?
3. Have you ever felt inconvenienced by the task of hosting someone or making someone feel welcome in your home/environment? What were the challenges you faced, and how did you deal with them?
4. Have you ever done something with the intention to bless or have you seen a deed done with good intentions, but with the wrong results or timing? If so, what happened?
5. How might God personally use you right now to bring aid to other people, whether churched or unchurched?
6. Have you put your trust in God with your life? Would you like to receive the gift of life found in forever walking with God? Would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYER