

**Romans 15:15-19** “Nevertheless, brethren, I have written more boldly to you on some points, as reminding you, because of the grace given to me by God, 16 that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. 17 Therefore I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things which pertain to God. 18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient-- 19 in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.” “In essentials – unity; in incidentals – liberty; and in all things – love.” This ancient quote aptly sums up the section of scripture we’ve just covered from Romans 14:1 through Romans 15:14. Now, the apostle Paul gets personal speaking of his ministry. In doing so, Paul has given us the marks of a faithful minister. So that you don’t turn me off now that you’ve heard the subject, remember all Christians are called to minister. So let’s look at the marks of a faithful minister:

**I. A FAITHFUL MINISTER IS GIVEN GRACE TO ACCOMPLISH THE MINISTRY**

**Romans 15:15** “Nevertheless, brethren, I have written more boldly to you on some points, as reminding you, because of the grace given to me by God,” Remember **Romans 12:5-6a** “so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them.”

**II. A FAITHFUL MINISTER IS GIVEN THE GOAL OF EDIFYING OTHER CHRISTIANS**

**Romans 16:b** “...that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.” **Romans 18b** “...to make the Gentiles obedient.”

Remember how we are admonished in **Romans 15:2** “Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.”

**III. A FAITHFUL MINISTER GIVES GLORY TO GOD, NOT TAKING ANY CREDIT TO HIMSELF.**

**Romans 15:17-19a** “Therefore I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things which pertain to God. 18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient. 19 in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God.”

**IV. A FAITHFUL MINISTER GIVES GOSPEL WORDS AND DEEDS**

**Romans 15:18** “. 18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient-“ We must share the gospel message for it is the power of God unto salvation, and we must back up our testimony with a changed, supernatural life as we walk in the Spirit.

**V. A FAITHFUL MINISTER GIVES EVIDENCE BY FRUITFULNESS**

**Romans 15:19** “19 in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God,”

**VI. A FAITHFUL MINISTER PERSEVERES AND THOROUGHLY**

**PROCLAIMS ALL OF GOD’S WORD.** **Romans 15:19b** “so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.” **2Tim.4:7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” **Acts 20:27** “For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.”