

Sermon Discussion Guide

November 2nd, 2025 | Romans 15:14-21 | Pastor Greg Doty

Series // Transformed: Romans 12-16

Summary

In this passage, Paul is encouraging the church in Rome to receive his correction in humility and confidence in the Gospel. Pastor Greg explained that we tend to have two responses to correction: we can be so discouraged and defeated by it that we think it's best to give up, or we dismiss it and question the authority of the one correcting us (Who are you to say...?). Paul begins by reminding them of who they are in the Gospel, which is why he says that they are "full of goodness" and "full of knowledge." He commends them for their growth in the Gospel but reminds them that these things are true because of Jesus' work on the cross. And it is because of that work that he says he is "satisfied" in them, in the same way God is satisfied in those of us who are in Christ. The Gospel also transforms our pride, giving us the freedom to confess our sins honestly and receive correction without fear or shame. Because we've been justified and forgiven, we can admit our faults and rely on God's power to change us. Paul's goal, like God's, is not to control people but to see Christ formed in them.

<u>Icebreaker:</u> Who taught you how to drive? Do you have any funny memories from that experience?

Discussion Questions:

Introduction

Are you more likely to fall into "defeat" or "pride" when corrected?

The Gospel transforms our defeat

- Paul tells them that he is "satisfied" with them. Why is that statement powerful when we think about God's view of us?
- How does knowing that God is satisfied with us because of Christ change the way we receive correction or criticism?

The Gospel transforms our pride

- Pride often makes us resist correction or think we don't need it. How does remembering Christ's humility challenge our pride?
- When someone corrects you, what inner thoughts or emotions reveal pride in your heart? How might the Gospel speak to those feelings?

Conclusion

- In the sermon, Pastor Greg said that "we can confess boldly because God is satisfied with us through Christ." How does that resonate with you?
- How can confession and repentance in community (parents with children, friends, spouses, church members) demonstrate the Gospel to others?