

ROMANS: Living Sacrifices Romans 12-16

“Phoebe”

Romans 16:1-2

March 1, 2026

Introduction

On the last night Jesus spent with His disciples, He performed one of the most memorable acts of service in history. There in the Upper Room, Jesus was not seated at the place of honor, but in a position of service as He washed the feet of His disciples (John 13). This act of humility is convicting and nudges us to press on to serve one another.

Romans 16 is another passage of Scripture that nudges us to serve in the example of our Savior. Paul thought of others and was sacrificial in his efforts to meet needs. Little wonder that he includes one-third of the “one another” commands in Romans 12-16. He is simply teaching out of the example of his life.

This final chapter of Romans reveals that Paul was not a “one-man show.” He was a team player who seemed overjoyed in making personal connections with other believers to advance the Kingdom of God. We find in these verses Paul’s immense love for fellow Christians. It shows how he felt about them and how much he valued their friendship and fellowship.

John MacArthur notes that this passage is *“by far the most extensive and intimate expression of love and appreciation to come from the tender heart and inspired mind of the apostle Paul.”*

The list of names we read in Romans 16 points to our need for community. This powerful model of loving God’s people is an example of how we should carry their names and faces on our hearts. This morning, our attention is given to the faithful ministry of our sister Phoebe.

~Romans 16:1-2

I. More Than a List of Names: A Breakdown of Romans 16

II. To Be Commended for Your F_____ S_____ (16:1-2)

- A. Our Sister Phoebe
- B. A Servant of the Church
- C. A Helper of Many

III. To Be a Church That H_____ One Another (16:2)

- A. Welcome Her in the Lord
- B. Help Her in Whatever She May Need

Application:

**Set out from this worship gathering with eyes to see opportunities to serve and do it in Jesus's name.

**Read Mark 10:45, John 13:1-20, Romans 16:1-16, and ask God to show you ways you can serve others.

**Ask yourself: What contribution am I making to my Church family?
To the ministry efforts of my Church?
How am I using my gifts, talents, abilities, and resources to advance the cause of Christ through my local church?

**Challenge: Open your heart to serve the Lord by taking on a responsibility to serve the Lord and others.

Conclusion

As Christians, we are supposed to live counter-cultural lives. The world caters to the proud, but God honors the humble. Jesus says to every believer, "You have been crucified with me, take up your cross and follow me," which is a call to humble yourself, forget yourself, and not think more highly of yourself than you ought. In simple terms, to be a servant for the glory of Christ.