

# **A Life of Purpose**

## **Romans 15:14-33**

### **Introduction**

Vin Scully retired.

Vin lived a life immersed in baseball and broadcasting.

As Paul begins the conclusion of Romans he declares his purpose for living.

Paul was a man of the gospel of Jesus Christ

The gospel and the Savior were the sole elements of his very existence and purpose.

He was immersed in Jesus and the gospel truth.

As he concludes chapter 15 he describes his identity and his need for prayer.

### **Verses 14-17 An Overall Purpose**

1. I write boldly to you
2. I have put you in my mind
3. Because of the grace that God gives.
4. I should be a minister of Jesus Christ
5. To the Gentiles
6. That I may glory in the things pertaining to God
7. He had an overall calling (Matthew 28:19-20/ Acts 1:6)
8. We have an overall calling and purpose

### **Verses 18-22 A Specific Purpose**

1. Verse 16 To the Gentiles.
2. Paul had a specific purpose within an overall purpose.
3. Acts 9:15-16 He will suffer and minister to the Gentiles.

4. He was a Roman Citizen / tri-lingual / Greek Educated / Hebrew Educated.
5. I wish to bring Gentiles into obedience.
6. By word and deed.
7. The Holy Spirit has validated this specific calling.
8. Does the Holy Spirit validate your ministry?
9. I have fully preached the gospel.
10. I have strived (agonized) to preach where Jesus has not been named.
11. I don't build on another man's foundation.
12. Paul is fulfilling God's plan that was predetermined.
13. I have been hindered to come to you.

### **Verses 23-29 A Specific Plan**

1. I will come to you.
2. I am going to Jerusalem first.
3. I am delivering an offering.
4. How do we understand God's will for our lives?
5. Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart devises his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.
6. Psalm 25:1-13 God's teaches the righteous his way.
7. Psalm 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord and he delighteth in His way.
8. Psalm 85:13 The righteous shall go before Him and shall set us in the way of his steps.
9. Set your path in God's overall purpose and God will direct the specific steps.
10. But God can intervene and change His method if He desires.
11. Paul had an overall plan and scheduled a specific plan within it.
12. He went to Jerusalem and was almost killed and saved by Lycius.
13. He was sent to Caesarea to preach to Felix and Herod Agrippa and Festus.
14. He is sent to Rome as a prisoner and shipwrecked.

15. He preached to Roman guard Publius.
16. He healed and preached on the Island of Melita.
17. He comes to Rome.

### **Verses 30-33 A Plea for Prayer**

1. Please agonize in prayer for me.
2. That I may come in joy and be refreshed.
3. Chapter 16:1-16 Names.
4. People unknown to the ages but known to God.
5. Like them you may not be famous in the ages but known of God.
6. Your prayers are valuable in the faith.

### **Conclusion:**

1. We have an overall purpose in Christ.
2. We have a specific purpose individually.
3. We can make specific plans regarding the overall plan of God.
4. All people matter in the plan and in the prayers of the mission.

### **Challenge:**

1. Do you understand the overall plan for your life?
2. Do you fully grasp your individual purpose?
3. Start walking and let God direct your specific steps.
4. Do you know how important you are though the world does not know your name?