

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Saved to Serve

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Romans 15-16

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #2097

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this outline produced from a sermon preached by Adrian Rogers while serving as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. This outline is intended for your personal, non-commercial use.

In order to ensure our ability to be good stewards of Adrian Rogers' messages, Love Worth Finding has reserved all rights to this content.

Except for your personal, non-commercial use and except for brief quotations in printed reviews, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means –electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other– without the prior permission of the publisher.

Copyright ©2021 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc.

1) INTRODUCTION

- a) One of the problems with modern-day Christianity is that we think we've done God a wild favor just by going to church on Sunday morning.
  - i) We have the idea that this is somehow all that God requires of us.
    - (1) We think that we have fulfilled our duties and obligations to God when we go and listen to a sermon.
    - ii) But God did not call us to sit, soak and sour, but to serve.
- b) If you are saved, then you are saved to serve.
  - i) We have been called into the ministry.
  - ii) As Christians, we are all called to be ministers and servants of the Lord Jesus.
- c) Romans 15:8
- d) Romans 15:16
- e) Romans 15:25
- f) Romans 15:31
  - i) The word "service" in this verse is the same Greek word as "minister."
- g) Romans 16:1
  - i) The word "servant" here literally means "minister."
- h) Every Christian is a minister.
- i) There is no such thing as an inactive church member.
  - i) Every church member is active.
    - (1) He is either building up or tearing down.
    - ii) Matthew 12:30
    - iii) Every church member is either working with the Lord Jesus or working against Him.
- j) Today's message is for every Christian.
  - i) No one is excluded.
  - ii) God wants all of us to serve and to minister.
- k) Today's message will share six areas where we need to minister.
  - i) Ask yourself if you are willing for God to minister through you in each of these areas.

2) THE MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT (ROMANS 15:1-7)

- a) Romans 15:1-7
  - i) Jesus was willing to suffer for the Father.
  - ii) The key to these seven verses is found in verse five.
    - (1) The word "consolation" here is the same word as "encouragement."
    - (2) God is the God of encouragement.
  - iii) We need to encourage one another.
- b) Strong Christians are to encourage weak Christians.
- c) We are not here to please ourselves.
  - i) For example, if your church group is planning a meeting but the meeting time that's best for everyone else is not best for you, then you need to give up the time that's best for you.

- d) Romans 15:2
    - i) This is what brings us together.
  - e) Romans 5:5
    - i) The devil wants to start church fights.
    - ii) God wants us to be together and for us to encourage one another and lift up one another.
  - f) We need to get our eyes on the glory of God and begin to love and serve one another.
  - g) The God of all consolation has been patient with us, and we need to be patient with one another.
  - h) If we're looking to find things to criticize in the church, we can find them.
    - i) But we can also find blessings.
    - ii) It depends on what we look for.
  - i) People need encouragement.
  - j) Keep your eyes on Jesus, and put your arm around a brother or sister and help them.
  - k) Ask God to give you the ministry of encouragement.
- 3) THE MINISTRY OF EVANGELISM (ROMANS 15:8)
- a) Romans 15:8
    - i) "The circumcision" is a term for the Jews.
      - (1) Jesus was a minister to the Jews.
  - b) Jesus came to bring the Jewish nation to a saving faith in Him.
    - i) Not that the Jews alone would be saved; but that through them, the nations of the world would be blessed.
    - ii) John 4:22
      - (1) Salvation came through a Jewish Messiah.
      - (2) We have the Jewish Scriptures, and God brought this message to those early followers that they might be a blessing to the Gentiles.
  - c) Jesus came as an evangelist to seek and to save that which is lost.
    - i) Luke 19:10
  - d) Romans 15:16
    - i) God gave the Apostle Paul the ministry of evangelism.
    - ii) As Jesus Christ came and set an example to minister and as Paul came to minister to the Gentiles, every child of God has been called to bring souls to Jesus Christ.
  - e) No matter how faithfully we attend church, how eloquently we teach, how liberally we give, or how circumspectly we walk, if we are not endeavoring to bring souls to Christ, then we are not right with God.
    - i) We have been called to bring souls bound in the golden chains of the Gospel to Jesus.
    - ii) What right do we have to call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ if our business is not His business?
      - (1) And His business is to seek and to save that which is lost.

- f) The motivating purpose of our lives should be to go to Heaven and to take as many people with us as we can.
  - g) Ask the Lord to lay some soul upon your heart and to win that soul through you.
- 4) THE MINISTRY OF GIVING (ROMANS 15:25-27)
- a) Romans 15:25-27
    - i) The word “carnal” means fleshly things.
    - ii) The Gentiles in Greece had taken a love offering for the Jews in Jerusalem.
      - (1) The Gentiles were happy to give this offering because salvation is of the Jews.
        - (a) They had received an incredible spiritual blessing from the Jews.
        - (2) Since they had been blessed so much, why should they not give their material things when others are in need?
  - b) There are different kinds of offerings for different kinds of needs.
    - i) Service to God is giving.
    - ii) Giving an offering in church is worship to God and is also ministry.
      - (1) It’s not just a mere contribution, but it represents a spiritual debt.
      - (2) The Apostle Paul said that we are debtors.
        - (a) Romans 15:27
        - (b) We’re debtors to the founders of our churches, to the apostles who suffered, to the martyrs of the faith, and we’re debtors to the Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood.
      - (3) If we’ve been so blessed spiritually, should it pain us to give some of what we can’t keep anyway?
  - c) The only way we can take our money to Heaven is if we invest it in something that’s going to Heaven.
    - i) The only thing going to Heaven is the souls of people.
  - d) Ask God to give you the ministry of giving.

5) THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER (ROMANS 15:30-31)

- a) Romans 15:30-31
  - i) This was not just to help build the church and not just for Paul’s sake, but for the Lord Jesus Christ’s sake.
  - ii) Paul is asking for prayer that he would be delivered from his enemies and received by the saints.
- b) Prayer is a ministry.
  - i) Prayer is not getting ready to serve; prayer is a service.
  - ii) We can do more than pray after we’ve prayed, but we really can’t do much more than pray until we’ve prayed.
- c) Some may not have much money to give, and others may not be around many people to encourage them.
  - i) But regardless of our situation, we can all pray.

- 6) THE MINISTRY OF FELLOWSHIP (ROMANS 16:1)
  - a) Romans 16:1
    - i) The word “servant” here means “minister.”
  - b) Romans 16:1-7, 17-18
    - i) Paul lists several different people in this chapter.
      - (1) Not only was Paul a soul winner, but he was also a friend-maker.
  - c) Paul tells us how we are to minister:
    - i) We minister by receiving people.
      - (1) Romans 16:2
    - ii) We minister by greeting people.
      - (1) Romans 16:3
    - iii) We minister by loving people.
      - (1) Romans 16:5
    - iv) We minister by helping people.
      - (1) Romans 16:6
    - v) We minister by honoring people.
      - (1) Romans 16:7
    - vi) We minister by guarding the fellowship against all kinds of false doctrine so that our fellowship might be pure.
      - (1) Romans 16:17-18
  - d) The ministry of fellowship is loving one another.
    - i) We’re to love, receive, greet, encourage and honor one another.
  
- 7) THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP (ROMANS 16:25-27)
  - a) Romans 16:25-27
    - i) To God be the glory through Jesus Christ.
      - (1) This is the bottom line.
  - b) We need to stop moaning and groaning about living in the last days.
    - i) There has never been a greater day or a greater age in which to preach and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - c) A preacher of yesteryear, Dr. Vance Havner, said that he was proud of the business he was in and the company for which he worked.
    - i) The president of this company is God’s Son.
    - ii) His office door is always open, and he could walk in day or night and talk to the Boss.
    - iii) He had stock in the company and cashed dividends throughout his Christian life.
    - iv) He made investments where banks don’t break and where thieves don’t break through and steal.
    - v) He wasn’t just a member of the firm.
      - (1) His Father is the head of it, and he is a member of the family.
    - vi) This bank can’t fall, and this business can’t fail because we are laborers with God.

8) CONCLUSION

- a) We have been called into the ministry.
- b) We are saved to served.
  - i) Ask God to make you a minister.
- c) If you're not sure whether or not you're saved, you can get it settled today.
- d) Receive Jesus Christ today as your Lord and Savior.
  - i) Pray to Him now and ask Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16