

Reaching Out in Faith

Romans 15:14-33

Characteristics of Paul's Risk-taking Faith

1. Paul had a humble attitude.

Two Evidences of Paul's humble attitude

1. Respectful and not superior

I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

Romans 15:14

I have written you quite boldly on some points, as if to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me **Romans 15:15**

"I know that there is much which you could teach me about the Christian life, but my apostleship requires that I remind you of certain important truths."

Romans 15:15 (paraphrased)

2. Gave credit to God and not to himself

*Two Evidences of Paul's
humble attitude*

Paul's personal accomplishments

- World traveler
- "Priestly" assignment
- Ambassador to the Gentiles
- Performed miracles

by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. **Romans 15:19**

I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done—
Romans 15:18

So he said to me, “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the Lord Almighty.
Zechariah 4:6

2. Paul was bold in his ambitions.
*Characteristics of Paul’s
Risk-taking Faith*

This is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.
Romans 15:22

“Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

3. Paul was organized with his goals.

Four Impressive facts about Paul's Agenda Consistent with his given assignment and "Taking risks" within God's Will

1. Consistent with his given assignment
2. Reinforced by past accomplishment
3. Carefully mapped out in advance
4. Undergirded with prayer

After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jews of Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will

hand him over to the Gentiles.’ ”

Acts 21:10-11

When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. Acts 21:12

Then Paul answered, “Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 21:13

When he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, “The Lord’s will be done.” Acts 21:14

The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple, and immediately the gates were shut.

Acts 21:30

While they were trying to kill him, news reached the commander of the Roman troops that the whole city of Jerusalem was in an uproar. He at once took some officers and soldiers and ran down to the crowd. When the rioters saw the commander and his soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

Acts 21:31-32

Paul was willing to risk his life to reach to those areas where the gospel had not yet gone.

Significant accomplishment always involves risk, take it.

Significant accomplishment involves risk, take it.

- It might involve risking relationships
- Risky to speak up for Christ and the Gospel

- Risking sons and daughters

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14

*“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. **Mark 8:34-35***