## Romans 1:8-12 "Faith Encouraged by Faith"

January 29, 2023 – Pastor Nick Neves

Paul indicates in verse 8 that he supports the church of Rome from afar through the means of \_\_\_\_\_\_ (see also 2 Corinthians 1:8-11)

But he also longs to see them face to face, and has been hindered from doing so, despite numerous attempts.

Beyond Paul's ambitions to eventually reach the nation of Spain with the gospel, there are two immediate reasons that he asks God to let him visit the church in Rome:

## 1. Paul has a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ to give to them.

\*This is likely not the kind of 'spiritual gift' that Paul speaks of in places like Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12. It is most likely the gift of the gospel preached in power.

This gift is intended specifically to \_\_\_\_\_ them...

## 2. Paul anticipates that his time with the believers there in Rome might also be a blessing and a gift to \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul is excited to be blessed by the faith of these ordinary believers!

The church has often made the mistake of making more of its leaders than it ought to...

Paul, recognizing that he is just as capable of being blessed by the common believers in Rome as they are of being blessed by him longs for the mutual encouragement that comes from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

What are some ways that your conversations can become more centered on Jesus?

## Think about using the following prompts when you're talking with other believers:

- Pay attention to how God has been growing and challenging you, and be eager to talk about it with another saint.
- Ask your brothers and sisters: What are you doing in your family worship times?
- Ask, 'What are you reading in God's Word lately, and has the Lord used any particular passages to be a blessing to you?'
- Ask 'Who in your life have you been praying for for salvation?' (then take the time to pray with them for that person right there!)
- When someone brings up a hot topic issue in our culture, gently move the conversation towards Jesus by discussing how a strong trust in Jesus Christ causes us to deal with the critical issues of the day differently than a person who is not a Christian.