

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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February 9, 2024 – Praying the Apostolic Prayers – Erlinda Cruz

## ***Understanding the Context to Paul's Prayers in Romans 15 - Part 5***

### **Paul's Prayer in Romans 15:5-7**

According to Christ Jesus (15:5): We can only walk in this supernatural lifestyle because of Jesus.

1. **We do this according to Christ's death on the cross:** It gives us free access to the Father and the empowering of the Spirit to walk this out.
2. **We do this according to Christ's command:** He commanded us to love each one (Jn. 13:35).
3. **We do this according to Christ's example:** His response to disputes among His disciples when He washed their feet.

We do this by making Christ and His leadership the central focus of our unity. As we are captured by Him and the big things of His kingdom, our perspective is lifted "above the storms" of life.

**Receive one another, just as Christ received us:** We ask that He tenderize our hearts for others with the love and patience that He has for us (Jn. 15:9) and impart to us the unity for which Jesus prayed. It requires the supernatural work of the Spirit to receive one another in the generosity in which Jesus receives us. Our challenge is in first learning to see that He really receives us with great generosity. As I see the "God narrative" of my life and how He views me, then I can see others in this way.

### **Paul's Prayer in Romans 15:13**

Paul prayed we would be filled with joy and peace and abound in hope in the face of difficulties.

"Now may the God of hope fill You with all joy and peace in believing, that You may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13

**Fill us with all joy and peace:** This prayer includes the Spirit empowering us to enjoy Jesus and His family, even in difficulties, by giving us more insight into the truth about Him and His leadership.

1. We pray for an historic visitation of the Holy Spirit's impartation of peace, joy, and hope for the thousands of believers in our city.
2. We can enjoy and delight in Jesus with gratitude, even in the midst of difficulties and delays.

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“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love... These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

John 15:9-11

3. The grace to enjoy interacting with Him even as we are faithful in small, mundane, and challenging ministry assignments and acts of service: Help us to enjoy Him in doing the work of the kingdom. By seeing His leadership, we gain peace or a sense of security and well-being.