

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

**/Welcome To  
BARAH MINISTRIES  
a Christian Church  
Rory Clark  
Pastor-Teacher\**

Good Morning! Second Timothy, Chapter 3, Verses 16 and 17 say...

/2TI 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God (theoneustos) and (it is) profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; //so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.\

The Word of God is PROFITABLE...it is given for your personal benefit and for your personal use.

The Word of God is for TEACHING...it is a series of truths taught to you by a Pastor and is made readily and easily available for you to learn.

The Word of God is for REPROOF...it is designed to help you learn things the “easy way”...and it warns you concerning the “hard way”...and it is given to you by God to handle your problems, well in advance of need.

The Word of God is for CORRECTION...it highlights the adjustments you need to make to get your lives operating according to God’s plan.

The Word of God is for...Instruction in Righteousness...it illustrates the standards of perfection that God is using to change us into perfect reflections of His Glory.

Welcome to your spiritual meal, the Word of God, courtesy of the teaching ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

Bible study is a time for the refreshment of RENEWING...it’s a time to reinvigorate our souls and our senses...a time to turn our bodies over to God as living and holy sacrifices...a time to allow God the Holy Spirit to lead you into the truths of the Word of God, so we can be a reflection of our

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

Savior's thoughts to a lost and dying world, as we persevere in the study of the Word. Romans, Chapter 12, Verse 2 says...

ROM 12:2

*And do not be conformed to this world, but (keep on) be(ing) transformed by (God in) the RENEWING of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

During bible study, God the Holy Spirit prepares you to “in humility receive the Word of God implanted, which is able to save your souls.” Thank you for expressing your will with your presence...thanks for being here to get another dose of truth courtesy of the members of the Godhead, the Ones who love you unconditionally...and thanks for coming to this celebration of the Lord's Supper where we get to witness in our souls the quintessential sacrifice that was made on our behalf at the Cross.

**/MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

*Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

God is Faithful\

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's hear June Murphy worships our Lord in song. The opening song is...GOD IS FAITHFUL.

**/OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray...\

We're grateful Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying the absolute truth...the Word of God...

Help us to be objective in our assessment of Your ministry...give us the faith to act...give us the courage to endure...give us the strength to stand up and be counted among the great ministries of the world...

We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit...in Christ's

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

name...Amen.

**/Welcome To  
BARAH MINISTRIES  
a Christian Church  
Rory Clark  
Pastor-Teacher\**

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God for the purpose of equipping you believers in Christ for the work of service.

**/TODAY'S STUDY  
Romans Chapter 1- When Faith is Operative, it is Contagious\**

Let's begin this lesson by taking the offering. Let's welcome up Deacon Caleb Alburn.

**/THE OFFERING  
Deacon Caleb Alburn\**

/Barah Ministries Financial Policy

No price appears on any material from Barah Ministries so that anyone who desires biblical teaching may have it free of charge.\

**/OFFERING VERSE**

PHI 4:19a  
*And my God will supply all your needs...\*

/Remember to give with the motivation suggested in Scripture

2CO 9:7  
*Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful (grace oriented) giver.\*

**/OFFERING SONG  
Holy is the Lord\**

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

**/TODAY'S STUDY**

**Romans Chapter 1- When Faith is Operative, it is Contagious\**

Here is the Kenneth Wuest Translation of the passage under study...Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 8 to 15...

/ROM 1:8 (Wuest Translation)

*First, I am constantly thanking my God through Jesus Christ concerning all of you because your faith is constantly being spread abroad in the whole world... \*

/ROM 1:9 (Wuest Translation)

*...for my witness is God, to whom I render sacred service in my spirit in the good news concerning His Son, how unceasingly I am making mention of you always at my prayers... \*

/ROM 1:10 (Wuest Translation)

*...making supplication if somehow now at last I may be prospered in the will of God to come to you... \*

/ROM 1:11 (Wuest Translation)

*...for I long to see you in order that I may impart some spiritual gift to you resulting in your being stabilized... \*

/ROM 1:12 (Wuest Translation)

*...that is, moreover, that I may be strengthened by you through the mutual faith which is both yours and mine. \*

/ROM 1:13 (Wuest Translation)

*Moreover, I do not desire you to be ignorant, brethren, that often I proposed to myself to come to you, but I was prevented up to this time, in order that I might procure some fruit also among you even as also among the rest of the Gentiles. \*

/ROM 1:14 (Wuest Translation)

*Both to Greeks and to those who do not possess Greek culture, both to wise and unwise, I am debtor in such a manner that to the extent of my ability... \*

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

/ROM 1:15 (Wuest Translation)

*I am eager to proclaim the good news also to you who are in Rome.\*

In the past several lessons, our focus has been on Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 8...

/ROM 1:8

*First, I (Paul) thank my God (and Father) through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.\*

Faith, when it is operative and effective, is contagious. You've probably heard the expression...

/DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER!\

“Don't Shoot the Messenger” is a metaphoric phrase used to describe the act of lashing out at the often blameless bearer of bad news. In the ancient world, messages were usually delivered in person by a human envoy. Sometimes, in war for example, the messenger was sent from the enemy camp. An easily provoked combatant receiving such an envoy could more easily vent anger on the deliverer of the unpopular message than on its sender. The fact remains that “shooting the messenger” may be a time honored emotional response to unwelcome news, but it is not a very effective method of remaining well-informed.

In Barah Ministries, I am the messenger. Unfortunately for you, I have never much minded being shot. The reason for this boldness is that I have options. If one thing doesn't work out in my life, I can readily move to another thing after a period of self-induced sulking. I don't like endings any more than you do. Endings constitute change, and the human side of me wants things to be comfortable. Yet growth is not comfortable, and so I have learned to adapt and move on.

Until recently, the thought never crossed my mind that an ending was possible for me and Barah Ministries. It was unthinkable. Yet lately it is resounding more loudly in my head and in my heart. I may not be the person best suited to lead this ministry. I think it is only fair to tell you what has induced these thoughts.

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

I assure you, this is not a gimmick to motivate you. My motivation attempts have not been successful up to this point, even among those who are closest to me. So on this matter, you don't have to figure out if I'm "playing mind games" with you. I am not. I'm dead serious. One of our deacons, who also happens to be my son, said publicly recently, "If things don't change soon at Barah Ministries, I'm going to investigate East Valley Bible Church." It was one of my proudest moments as a father, to hear him say that, and I even respected the comment as a Pastor. He was saying that he has options. It inspired me to think, so do I.

What am I saying?

I'm saying that as nice a group of people as God has placed here in this ministry, as willing a group as we have here, as capable a group as we have here, we are failing miserably at Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 8.

/ROM 1:8

*First, I (Paul) thank my God (and Father) through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.\*

I don't mind at all becoming "Caleb-esque" and telling you so. We are a "comfortable little congregation." I don't think the Lord Jesus Christ called us to that mission. I think the mission our Lord has called us to is to "proclaim our faith throughout the whole world." We are not doing that. And for this ministry to be interesting to me, that has to change.

I think we have a distorted view of what a church is. I think our view is perverted by our past. The past needs to be discarded. This is not St. Elizabeth, or whatever Roman Catholic Church you are from. This is not Berachah Church. This is not Grace Bible Church. This is not whatever other ministry you came from. This is today. This is Barah Ministries. We are a unique creation. We have been assembled by God for His purpose. I don't believe that purpose is to be a small little group that moves from hotel to hotel. I believe the bible is clear what our purpose is, for example, in First Timothy, Chapter 2, Verses 3 and 4, which say...

/1TI 2:3-4

*This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, //who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.\*

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

I believe the bible is clear what our purpose is, for example, in Matthew, Chapter 28, Verses 19 and 20...

/MAT 28:19-20

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.”\*

I believe the bible is clear what our purpose is, for example, in Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 18...

/2PE 3:18

*...but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.\*

GROW is the key word in that verse as see it. For any entity to consider itself a “going concern,” it must GROW.

If God is measuring us by standards such as these, and He is, I think we’re failing. And as the head of the ministry, I willingly accept the blame. But I think you have to stand up and acknowledge your part of this, and when you return from the break, I want to tell you what I see happening.

Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

*When I Think About Home\*

Welcome back!

I think we have a distorted view of what a church is.

I am not burdened by my past. I have been a part of about ten churches in my time, and I don’t think any of them are a model for Barah Ministries. In fact, I think looking for models in the world for what we can become is one of the worst things we could do. There is no pattern for us to follow. This church is a creation.

God has made it clear WHERE he wants us to be. He has given s a piece of

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

land on Burk and Guadalupe in Gilbert, Arizona. That's the starting place for where He wants us to be. We can put a 5000 square feet, 60 parking space facility on that piece of ground, and it is going to take about \$1.5 million dollars and three years to get that done. Of course we don't have the money, and we hate the time frame, but we're not going to do something expedient just to say we did something. So far every attempt we have made to be expedient has been thwarted, and I see God's hand in the thwarting.

God has made it clear whom He wants to be at the head of this ministry, at least for now, and unfortunately for you, that's me. But I invite you to consider a few things. God has given you a bold, ambitious, articulate, world renowned leader, who is a sound business professional, who is great at making money, who is great at assembling teams, and who is great at being a catalyst. I ask you...do you think that is a coincidence? Do you think he put a leader of that caliber in place to run a one-hundred person ministry? I doubt it. Yet so far, my faith is not being "proclaimed throughout the whole world."

God has put three deacons in place. They are young men, ranging in age from early twenties to mid-thirties, and I am totally confident in them as men, as deacons, and as Christians. I have given you a chance to see them in action this year, and I'm sure you'll agree that they are exceptional men. I think it was a little over a year ago when Deacon Caleb Alburn called this congregation onto the carpet and gave it as kind a thrashing as I have ever seen. He said we have a lot of potential. He's right. Yet so far, that potential has not manifested itself in a "faith that is being proclaimed throughout the whole world." These deacons, as leaders, have not "made their bones." They have not distinguished themselves as ministers of the gospel. For the life of me, I can't figure out what is holding them back, but maybe it is me.

We have competent and generous congregation members, some of whom understand that a church is not the same as a business. In the business world, we wait for leaders to tell us what to do. A church is different. Our God gives each of us a spiritual gift. He expects us to learn what it is and to use it. I can give you examples of this within Barah Ministries. I can also give you examples of this not in play.

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

Every August for the last three years, I have gone to Coeur D’Alene, Idaho for a conference. I show up. I teach. I leave. Why? Because the Coeur D’Alene Bible Conference of Barah Ministries is the ministry of John and Monica Miller. It is not the ministry of Rory Clark. They conceived it. They handled the logistics of it. They hosted it. It works.

The Boorah Golf Tournaments within Barah Ministries are the ministry of Mike Embree. He conceived it. He handled the logistics of it. He hosted it. It works.

Barah Ministries on video is the ministry of Van Brumbach. He conceived it. He handled the logistics of it. He hosted it. It works.

The Barah Ministries website is part of the ministry of Marc Pomeroy. He conceived it. He handled the logistics of it. He hosted it. It works.

You’ll notice the pattern. When someone has a ministry, they do everything. I do nothing except give my assent and feedback. I don’t do any of the work. I don’t have time to do your ministry and my ministry, which is to provide you with lessons from the Word of God, among other things.

I have seen other projects that haven’t gone so well...ideas that never come to fruition. When projects don’t go well, my involvement is too needed, and my assent is too necessary. Some of you have said we should have a brochure. It has never come to fruition. Why? If you look at the pattern of successes within Barah Ministries...someone conceives it...someone handles the logistics of it...someone hosts it...it works...that pattern was not present in the brochure project.

You need to understand this about me as a leader. I want to enable your ministry within Barah Ministries. I don’t want to run your ministry within Barah Ministries.

There are two women who want to create a Facebook page, a blog, a You Tube channel, and who want to post our lessons on Facebook. I am all for it. I asked them to wait, however, because that is a matter that requires both leadership and coordination. Yet when all is said and done, they will be leading it and coordinating it. I am pleased with the planning they are doing

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

in the background to make that ministry work while we are deciding as leaders how to best coordinate it.

I am not at all pleased by the direction of our music ministry. I think we have a world-class songwriter and a world-class singer in June Murphy. But I don't think she is leading the music ministry in a world-class way. And lest you think I am being hard on June, I am not. I have not been more personally involved with any ministry within Barah Ministries than this ministry. And no ministry has used more of Barah Ministries' funds than this ministry. Yet I find myself dragging this ministry forward, rather than simply enjoying watching its growth, and it irritates me. Why? It is a world-class ministry, but it is not operating in a world-class way. And I have been considering terminating this ministry.

I don't think it is reasonable for a ministry to expect to have a Pastor without paying the Pastor a salary. Do you? I have been willing to defer my right to have a salary. I have done it for six years. Yet I have done the research as you might expect...I see Pastors in a lot of different ministries getting huge salaries, well into six figures, and giving the congregation less than you are getting in return. It bugs me. And the bug is getting louder. I don't think it is reasonable for a ministry to expect to have a Pastor without paying the Pastor a salary. Do you? And by the way ... "realistically speaking" ...that salary should be one that is enough for the Pastor to pay his bills. No one would take a job that doesn't pay his bills. If I were not here any longer, and you wanted this ministry to continue, you would have to find the funds, find a Pastor, and pay him. I don't think it is unreasonable for someone here to take on as a ministry the task of getting the Pastor a salary. Do you?

What am I saying?

In a nutshell, I think we have a distorted view of what a church is. I think this ministry lacks initiative. We do not have a "faith that is being proclaimed throughout the whole world." I heard it said recently that Barah Ministries will not grow until we have a building. I couldn't disagree more. I can't see the apostle Paul and the first century Christians saying that. I think their ministry was to...

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

/MAT 28:19-20

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.”\*

...I think the buildings followed. There are no sacred buildings in this age. Believers are the temple in the Church Age. First Corinthians, Chapter 3, Verse 16 says...

/1CO 3:16

*Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?\*

I believe we need to get off our temples and get out into the world and proclaim our faith. I think people will readily follow if we do. They will come where we are to worship. And I believe if you trace your path to this ministry, you didn't just wander in off the street. Someone was out in the world and they brought you in.

Okay. So the messenger is not blameless. Let's just blame me for the whole things. I can take it. But does blame solve our problem? Things that don't grow die...ministries among them. Dead things are pretty uninteresting.

I have no interest in leaving Barah Ministries. But if things don't change...if there is no response to my leadership...if there is no initiative... then I think you are best served by someone you will respond to. There are two men here that are capable of being Pastors...Caleb and Elliott, so you are in a good position. But I think you have to ask yourselves if the job would be appealing to them.

I don't think it is too much to ask for a group of people from this ministry to come forward with a collective brain to figure out how to raise \$1.5MM to \$2 MM for a building. Whether I am right or wrong about the amount of money or the time frame is irrelevant. What is relevant, is that I have seen a ton of ministries start from a movie theater or a gym and become huge. I don't know how they did it, but I know it took initiative and creativity. It did not just fall in their laps. People made a decision, initiated, and God delivered.

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

I don't think it is too much to ask to have a salary.

I think it takes too much work to remain small. We have to be world-class to SURVIVE as a ministry.

I don't think having a desire to grow comes under the heading of striving. I think we were misled in that account.

I'm really interested in leading you if you want to be lead. If you take this as condemnation and criticism, then to me that's a statement. This is anything but criticism. Don't shoot the messenger. Yet it is not motivation or exhortation. That's been done. It's objective assessment.

We are failing as a ministry as I see it. Why? Faith. I don't see a faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world. That has to change.

Thanks you for what you do. This is not an indictment of what you do. It's a spotlight on what we are not doing that must be done. Consider it that we are in intensive care. We have had brain wave activity, heartbeat, and respiration for the entire time we have been a ministry. But to continue to live, we must do something different.

I invite you to follow me on this journey. Great ministries aren't comfortable. Faith is active not passive. It's time we stood up to be counted among the great ministries of the world.

Faith, when it is operative and effective, is contagious. We have the Sovereign of the Universe on our side, and I think we need to start acting like it.

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 35 – October 6, 2013**

**/CLOSING SONG**

Lord I Believe in You\

**CLOSING VERSES**

/JER 29:11

*“For I know the plans that I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.”\*

/1PE 5:6-7

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, // casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.\*

/JUD 1:24-25

*Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, // to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.\*

**/CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray...\

THANKS  
INTERCESSION  
PETITION

And we pray that You continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of Your unconditional love, Your person, Your thinking, Your work, and Your essence...we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

/Thanks for coming!  
Thanks for watching!  
Thanks for listening!

**[www.barahministries.com](http://www.barahministries.com)**\