

Study Explanatory and Confirmatory of People Strong in Faith Bearing The Weak Based on Roma 15:1-4 For SMP 3 BOPKRI Yogyakarta

Roseta¹⁾, Ana Lestari Uriptiningsih²⁾, Tamba Parulian³⁾

Sekolah Tinggi Teologi KADESI Yogyakarta, tambaparulian1105@gmail.com



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

Abstract

The problem that often occurs is the life of Christians who do not care about people who are weak in faith. This reality is a life that deviates from the teachings in the Bible. The purpose of this study is to explain and confirm people who are strong in faith supporting the weak at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta. The method used in this research is quantitative using a questionnaire to confirm 66 people. The results of the study found that the dimension of strong people bearing the weak is the dominant dimension in determining the explanatory and confirmatory life glorifying God. This is proven through testing with linear regression analysis, which results that strong people bear weak people have an influence of 0.944 and the highest contribution for students at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta class VIII is 94.4%.

Keywords: Faith; Strong; Weak; Epistle to the Romans; glorifying God

Introduction

A strong person in faith who takes care of the weak is characterized by a person who is very close to God, has a godly life, lives guided by the Holy Spirit, and relies on God. This differs from weak people who usually have characteristics such as a lack of understanding of God's word, have a superficial perspective, and are quick to react if they find fault with others. Several factors make people strong in faith, such as being guided by the Holy Spirit, being wise, and not being demanding of others (Adinuhgra, 2016, pp. 121–143). These factors have the function of understanding and helping others. Just as Christ understood man's inability to fulfill the law so that He gave Himself as an atoning sacrifice, a person who is strong in faith must be able to sacrifice by providing help to the weak (Siahaya et al., 2021, pp. 348–349). People who are strong in faith always try to eliminate selfishness. They do God's will by paying attention to spirituality and prioritizing the interests of fellow human beings. This serves to make the growth of faith in God lead to a person who loves God. The growth of

faith can be modeled on the life of Paul as told in Romans 15:1. He claimed that he was one of the people who had strong faith. There was a problem in the church in Rome, where the Jewish Christians and the Gentile Christians experienced disputes and conflicts. The disputes were caused by different views on the Law and circumcision. The group that had weak faith was Jewish primarily Christians. While the strong group came from Gentile Christians. The purpose of Paul's statement was for peaceful living, mutual edification, one heart, and glorification of God.

This research focuses on students of SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta. They need assistance to understand how important life is to build mutual faith more gently. For example, giving encouragement and advice to students who make mistakes. BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta Junior High School lives in a very modern era, where facilities, trends, and civilization are mostly contrary to the teachings of God's word so it is very important as a student with strong faith to be an example and blessing for other students. So that together each student can imitate the life of Jesus who did not seek his pleasure and lived to glorify God.

Literature Review

Those who are strong in faith bear with the weak (Roma 15:1-4)

In Romans 15:1-4, Paul exhorted the believers to co-exist and build each other up as fellow believers just as the Lord Jesus had done. The Romans were living under intense pressure from the government and there was also strife between Jewish and non-Jewish groups. In verse 3, Paul quotes Jesus' words about not seeking one's pleasure. Therefore, Paul emphatically states that let the strong bear with the weak.

A life that can bear the weaknesses of others is a lifestyle for fellow believers. The Lord Jesus has participated in human misery. Therefore, humans do not have the right to make decisions by only looking out for themselves, to build faith through righteous deeds (Lee, 2020). Every believer who has applied the Word in every activity will share in the glory before God (Witness, 2021, p. 116). It is His good pleasure to bear the punishment for man's sin fully on His shoulders (Dachi, 2022, p. 188). Human beings who believe will have the same status before God. The Lord Jesus has taught believers to be willing to bear the weaknesses of fellow believers just as the Lord Jesus bears the weaknesses of all human beings.

Taking care of weaknesses can be done by pursuing something that brings peace and is useful for mutual development. Focusing on common interests such as being selfless in every situation, to prioritize common interests (Tucker & Tucker, 2022). Believers should not be judges of other people's mistakes and should try to advise according to God's word. Affirming those who are weak and have hope. Every believer should have sensitivity towards fellow believers who are experiencing difficulties and heavy burdens. Believers can give stories about spiritual stories, and tell the miracles experienced by God to strengthen faith.

Through words, all good and evil can happen. Therefore, as a believer, by taking the Word of God as a guide in speaking, everyone can speak good, constructive, and blessed words. Words can also make believers glorify God's name or bring scorn to God's name (Sebadja, 2000, p. 116). Hearts that have been changed by the gospel are those who are not

ashamed to accept the help of others and do the truth, by living usefully to help others (Tim, 2016, p. 67).

Building up the weak of faith

Paul stated that he was a strong believer (Sunarko, 2021, p. 101). People who have weak faith mostly come from Jewish Christians, although Paul was originally a Jew he did not favor them. Paul did not agree with the people with weak faith, Paul did not judge them and even Paul gave orders to the people who were strong in faith to give in to the brothers who were not weak. Paul wanted them to show love. The congregation from the Judeo-Christian group was still bound by the rules of the law. Since Jewish Christians are still bound by the rules of the law, they tend to have a contemptuous attitude and easily judge others (Hagelberg, 2013). Therefore, it was important for Paul to solve the problems of the Jewish Christians because contempt and judgment are not part of being a Christian. Judgemental and contemptuous attitudes are not the solution to make the "weak" grow in faith and will even have a negative impact and cause division.

Prioritizing the Interests of Others

Paul made the statement that we should seek the common good. That is, the right of every believer in Christ is to have a love for fellow believers. When everyone understands that they have been freed from the old rules, then everyone can live with love that prioritizes others, not enjoy the freedom and self-satisfaction of that freedom (Bergel, 2019, p. 194). Paul emphatically said that fellow believers can build each other up, have a good impact, and give pleasure to others, but in this case, Paul wants every believer not to please people with worldly things but must be based on truth. Paul strongly enlightens that knowledge can make people proud, but with love, people will be awakened. Those with strong faith know, that that knowledge can "make one proud". Love is needed because it builds up (Sirait et al., 2022, p. 117). Those with strong faith prioritize their brothers and sisters. Paul explains that every action should lead to mutual benefit and be spiritual and not worldly.

Knowledge is necessary in running life but it must be accompanied by the right knowledge because believers should have a life like Jesus Christ (Ristiono et al., 2022, p. 3). He did not prioritize his interests but was willing to sacrifice for humans to obtain salvation and be free from the punishment of sin (Suhendra & Bulan, 2021). Jesus in his teaching always prioritized love because without love everyone would not be able to have the best impact on fellow human beings. Love is the most important value for believers because it is through love that humans can have a heart that is sincere in prioritizing the interests of others (Sahertian et al., 2022, p. 282). Without love, negativity will be more prominent in the person of a believer.

Imitating the Lord Jesus

Christ in His perfection and power did not seek His pleasure. Every Christian should emulate Jesus. Man is not worthy to hate God. God is the creator of all that exists, even giving the precious gift of salvation to humans. Therefore, it requires humility for everyone strong in faith to face the attitude of brothers and sisters whose faith is weak. Just as Christ bore the

infirmities of sinful man, so should every Christian bear the infirmities of his neighbor. This is because the humanity of Christians is the living image of the humanity of Jesus Christ (Bynum, 1984, p. 216).

Jesus humbly took part in the suffering that mankind should have to endure. It is unbecoming of a man to hate God because it is the man who sins and rebels. Through wisdom and humility, God always loves people. Jesus was a good example in His three and a half years of ministry (Mulyani et al., 2022). When Jesus Christ could punish people He did not punish but sacrificed Himself for people. The humility and love of the Lord Jesus is an example for every believer to manifest to fellow Christians.

Paul in Romans 15:3 confirms that Jesus was reviled but He continued to love by not seeking His pleasure. The sincere love given by the Lord Jesus to humanity is a very special thing because sincere love and sacrificial actions only exist in Christ. therefore, as people who belong to a strong group of people, they should be able to imitate Jesus. Imitating Jesus will make Christians become like Christ, that is, a person who shows the person of Christ in every activity (Lehmann, 1963).

Steadfast in Hope

Paul affirms the truth of the word that everyone should be guided by the word and not tradition or religious rules. In the book of Psalms quoted by Paul, it states that to gain perseverance, comfort, and hope every person will be faced with problems. The problems and challenges faced are not to make believers fall into sin but to gain perseverance, comfort and hope so that every Christian can prioritize common interests and glorify God. All the struggles experienced are nothing that cannot be overcome if you have perseverance, comfort, and hope in Jesus.

The Bible serves as a guide and provides much knowledge of the truth of God's words, and it is even said that comfort and hope are given to everyone through the Bible. When Paul wrote this letter the church at that time was under pressure from the Roman government. Any believer who was caught believing in Jesus Christ would be persecuted. Therefore, Paul advised the believers to maintain their lives and continue to have hope in Jesus Christ.

It was not the right time for the Romans at that time to dispute beliefs and weaknesses in faith. What should have been the focus of the church in their differences was to keep strengthening each other in hope in Jesus Christ. The believers should strengthen each other in all circumstances so that their lives impact the growth of faith that is increasingly rooted in Christ.

In verse 13 Paul says that God fills joy and peace in faith and hope. Hope is an important part of a believer's life, but love is the most important part of every activity (1 Corinthians 13:13). According to Hebrews 6:19, hope is a strong and secure anchor for the soul, which in itself gives a great impact of strength on the uncertain realities of life (Anugerah, 2022). Paul affirmed that by the power of the Holy Spirit, every church can abound in hope.

Paul realized the situation of the church in Rome and with his writing could strengthen the hope of the brothers in Rome. Firmness in hope is the main part for believers to continue

to communicate with God and gain spiritual strength. In addition, trusting God's promise will make hope will not be shaken.

Method

Data were obtained from observation, using questionnaires, interviews, and standardized scales. The method used in this research is quantitative. This study used a questionnaire of 66 people. This research is a population study. The data obtained was processed using SPSS 25.

Results and Discussions

Those who are strong in faith bear with the weak

Statistics

Those who are strong in faith bear with the weak

N	Valid	66
	Missing	0
Mean		68,1515
Median		67,5000
Mode		64,00
Std. Deviation		7,38864
Range		30,00
Minimum		50,00
Maximum		80,00
Sum		4498,00

From the table above, it is known that the score of a strong person in faith bears that a weak person based on the results of research on 66 respondents obtained the average value (mean) of 68.1515; a midpoint (median) of 67.5; value that often appears (mode) of 64; standard deviation (standard deviation) of 7.38864; range (range) of 30; minimum score of data (minimum) of 50; a maximum score of data (maximum) of 80.

Validity of Test Instruments

The validity test is used to measure the concept building developed by the researcher. Sasmoko (2005, p. 133) said the term understanding building is used to indicate something that cannot be measured directly but can explain the effects that can be observed. By first determining the r criterion for n 66 of 0.238 with a significance level of 0.05 two-tailed. From the validity test of 28 endogenous variable items with the help of SPSS 25 software using the Pearson correlation formula, it is known that 28 items are declared all valid because they have a value of r count $>$ r criteria.

Reliability Test

Case Processing Summary

		N	%
Cases	Valid	66	100,0
	Excluded ^a	0	,0
	Total	66	100,0

a. Listwise deletion based on all variables in the procedure.

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
,959	28

From the endogenous variable reliability test using SPSS 25 software with Cronbach's Alpha formula, it is known that 66 respondents were declared 100% valid in collecting questionnaire data. For the 28 valid items, the reliability value is 0.959, which indicates that the 28 items are very reliable if used as a research questionnaire.

Normality Test of Variables

One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

		Those who are strong in faith bear with the weak
N		66
Normal Parameters ^{a,b}	Mean	68,1515
	Std. Deviation	7,38864
	Most Extreme Differences	
	Absolute	,105
	Positive	,105
	Negative	-,081
Test Statistic		,105
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		,071 ^c

- a. Test distribution is Normal.
- b. Calculated from data.
- c. Lilliefors Significance Correction.

The data has a significant 0.105 because it is more than 0.05, so it is declared normally distributed.

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	,971 ^a	,944	,943	3,03963

a. Predictors: (Constant), Those who are strong in faith bear with the weak

From the table above, it is known that the magnitude of the correlation coefficient (r_{y1}) of the confirmation of strong people in faith bearing the weak based on Romans 15: 1-4, 13 for students at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta class VIII in the 2022/2023 school year (Y) is 0.971 with a positive relationship and influence in the very strong category. The magnitude of the coefficient of variance determination (r^2_{x1}) is 0.944 which means that a strong person in faith bears the weak based on Romans 15: 1-13 for students at BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta Junior High School class VIII in the 2022/2023 school year (Y) contributes 94.4%.

ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	9916,622	1	9916,622	1073,305	,000 ^b
	Residual	591,317	64	9,239		
	Total	10507,939	65			

a. Dependent Variable: a life of glorifying God based on Romans 15:1-13

b. Predictors: (Constant), Those who are strong in faith bear with the weak

Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	5,768	3,498		1,649	,104
	Orang yang kuat menanggung orang lemah	1,672	,051	,971	32,761	,000

a. Dependent Variable: a life of glorifying God based on Romans 15:1-13

Based on significance testing with the t-test, the coefficient is 32.761 at a sig level of 0.000. Obtained t-table for $df = n-2 = 66-2 = 64$ of 1.668. From the results of these calculations, it is known that the t-count value of $32.761 > t\text{-table}$ ($32.761 > 2.024$). This implies that there is a significant relationship. To be able to predict the magnitude of the contribution of confirmation Strong people in faith bear the weak based on Romans 15:1-13 for students at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta class VIII t/a 2022/2023 (Y), the regression equation $Y = b + b_1D_1$, $Y = 5.768 + 1.672D_1$ the regression equation means that if the variable Strong people in faith bear the weak (D_1) increases by one unit, the average score of confirmation of life glorifying God based on Romans 15: 1-13 for students at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta grade VIII in the 2022/2023 academic year (Y) will increase by 1.672 times from the current condition.

From the regression results of D_1 , on the endogenous variable, the influence and contribution values can be known as follows:

Dimensi	r	R square	Contribution
The strong bear the weak (D_1)	0,971	0,944	94,4%

From the table of linear regression recapitulation of each dimension of exogenous variables with endogenous variables (Y) above, it is known that the largest contribution is obtained from people who are strong in faith to bear weak people with a correlation coefficient of 0.971 and a coefficient of determination of 0.944 or a contribution of 94.4% based on Roma 15:1-13 for students at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta class VIII in the 2022/2023 school year (Y).

Conclusion

Based on the results and discussion of this study, it is found that the dimension of strong people bearing weak people is the dominant dimension in determining the explanatory and confirmatory life glorifying God. This is proven through testing with linear regression analysis, which results that strong people bear weak people have an influence of 0.944 and the highest contribution for students at SMP BOPKRI 3 Yogyakarta class VIII is 94.4%. People who are strong in faith have an important role in the growth of people who are weak in faith. Just as Jesus Christ did not punish sinful humans but sacrificed himself as the redeemer of sin, so too a strong person in faith must sacrifice for fellow human beings to build and grow faith.

References

- Adinuhgra, S. (2016). Bimbingan Rohani Jalan Aman Mencapai Puncak Hidup Rohani. *Sepekak-Jurnal Pastoral Kateketik*, 2(1).
- Anugerah, B. (2022). Arti "Menurut Peraturan Melkisedek" Di Ibrani 7 Dan Signifikasinya Bagi Gereja Masa Kini. *Consilium: Jurnal Teologi Dan Pelayanan*, 24. [Http://Repository.Seabs.Ac.Id/Handle/123456789/1468](http://Repository.Seabs.Ac.Id/Handle/123456789/1468)
- Bergel, Ł. (2019). Gerald O'collins, Revelation. Towards A Christian Interpretation Of God's

Self-Revelation In Jesus Christ, Oxford University Press, Oxford 2016, Ss. 247, Isbn 978-0-19-108700-3. *Biblica Et Patristica Thoruniensia*, 12(2), 193. <https://doi.org/10.12775/Bpth.2019.010>

Bynum, C. W. (1984). *Jesus As Mother: Studies In The Spirituality Of The High Middle Ages* (Issue 16). Univ Of California Press.

Dachi, R. A. (2022). *Hukum Taurat Dalam Perspektif Iman Kristen*. Pascal Books.

Hagelberg, D. (2013). Tafsiran Roma Dari Bahasa Yunani. *Bandung: Kalam Hidup*, 124, 33.

Lee, W. (2020). *Pelajaran-Hayat Roma*. Yayasan Perpustakaan Injil Indonesia (Yasperin).

Lehmann, P. L. (1963). *Ethics In A Christian Context*. <https://philpapers.org/rec/Leheia>

Mulyani, E., Angkouw, S. R., & Joswanto, A. (2022). Keteladanan Yesus Mengajar Murid-Murid Dan Implikasinya Bagi Pelayanan Sekolah Minggu. *Real Didache: Journal Of Christian Education*, 2(1), 30–44. <https://doi.org/10.53547/Rdj.V2i1.151>

Ristiono, Y. B., Sirait, J. R., Baskoro, P. K., & Simbolon, M. E. (2022). The Influence Of Teacher Personality Quality On The Spiritual Growth Of A Congregation. *Pharos Journal Of Theology*, 1(103(2)), 161–186. <https://doi.org/10.46222/Pharosjot.103.2048>

Sahertian, N. L., Ming, D., & Ichwan, M. N. (2022). Half-Hearted Inclusivism: The Theological Doctrine Of Salvation In The Document Of Lumen Gentium And The Fate Of Others. *Jurnal Theologia*, 33(2), 277–294. <https://doi.org/10.21580/Teo.2022.33.2.16654>

Sebadja, H. (2000). *Jadilah Pelaku Firman*. Bpk Gunung Mulia.

Siahaya, J., Rinukti, N., Setiawan, H. L., Siahaya, C. J., & Sutiono, V. S. (2021). Menstimulasi Sikap Kerukunan Dalam Jemaat: Sebuah Model Moderasi Beragama Menurut Roma 14:1-4. *Kurios*, 7(2), 345–351. <https://doi.org/10.30995/Kur.V7i2.338>

Sirait, J. R., Daliman, M., Istinatun, H. N., & Wahyuni, S. (2022). Tinjauan Praktis Tentang Resolusi Konflik Berdasarkan Filemon 1:1-25. *Kamaya: Jurnal Ilmu Agama*, 5(3), 114–124. <https://doi.org/10.37329/Kamaya.V5i3.1903>

Suhendra, Y., & Bulan, S. E. (2021). God's Love For This World: Christians Call To Love Indonesia. *Quaerens: Journal Of Theology And Christianity Studies*, 3(1), 51–71. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.46362/Quaerens.V3i1.34>

Sunarko, A. S. (2021). Fungsi Keluarga Dalam Persepektif Alkitab Sebagai Basis Pendidikan Agama Kristen. *Jurnal Pendidikan Agama Kristen (Jupak)*, 2(1), 79–93. <https://doi.org/10.52489/Jupak.V2i1.15>

Tim, W. (2016). *Emotional Intelligence Itu "Dipraktekin"*. Pt.Grasindo.

Tucker, R. R. A., & Tucker, A. (2022). *Jika Bukan Tuhan Yang Membangun Rumah*. Zion Christian Publishers.

Witness, L. (2021). *Pelajaran Hayat : Tesalonika, Timotius, Titus Dan Filemon*. Yasperin.