



**UNASHAMED**

*of the Gospel*

A study in Romans



*Unashamed  
of the Gospel:  
A Study in Romans*

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## *Foreword*

Have you ever thought about how amazing it is that the God of the universe, the One who breathed entire galaxies into existence, the God who out of the dust of the ground formed and fashioned humans into His image and likeness has written a book and preserved it to this day so that you and I might open its pages and begin to discover Him as He has revealed Himself?

From “In the beginning God...” to “Amen, Come, Lord Jesus...” page after page reveals God and His unfolding plan of redemption for a world that has been plunged into darkness. And you and I are invited by its Divine Author to open its pages and begin a journey of discovery!

The Bible is unlike any other book written. “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man [and woman] of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV).

Because of its Divine Author we can have confidence that it is the unchanging truth of a God who loves us and calls us to Himself. We can trust the word that is spoken to be good and right and true and we can gladly place ourselves under its authority.

So let us embrace the journey of discovering the God of the Bible as He reveals Himself to us through His written Word!

### ABOUT ROOTED WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Even though I was raised in the church and had a solid knowledge of the Bible, I was still living in spiritual darkness. In 2010 God miraculously and graciously awakened me out of this darkness and brought me into His marvelous light. He began to grow in my heart a hunger to know Him and I began to study the Bible with earnestness under the teaching of Jen Wilkin, a women's Bible study teacher from Texas.

For the first time the Bible became a living book and I began to understand the gospel. I began to grow to know God through consistent and faithful study of His Word. And knowing Him began to change me. A longing began to grow in my heart for other women to know my God through His Word. And thus began the Rooted Women's Bible Study (RWBS).

## **ABOUT OUR PROCESS**

Because it was through Jen's ministry that I was discipled in the study of Scripture, I use the same process in RWBS that she uses in her classes. If you would like to read more about the process, I highly recommend her book: **Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts & Our Minds.**

While the Bible is made up of two parts: the Old and New Testaments with a total of 66 separate books written over hundreds of years, it is woven together and is one book with one story to tell. Just as in any other piece of literature that is read, we want to read the Bible within its context and with care.

What I mean is this: The Bible, while it is ultimately written by a Divine Author, was also written by men chosen by God to bring us His Word. 2 Peter 1:21 says "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." So the Bible was written by a specific person, to a specific people, at a specific time, and for a specific purpose. Some of its books are historic narratives, some are poetry, some are prophetic books and others are letters. And to fully comprehend what the author is trying to communicate, we need to try to understand as much as possible the historical and cultural context of what we are reading so that we can understand what it has to say to us.

Another part of the process of our Bible study is to read repetitively. So often as we are reading, we don't really digest what we are reading. This study guide is written in such a way to help us slow down, read repetitively and begin to digest the words that are on the page. Our goal by reading repetitively is to move through three critical stages of understanding: comprehension, interpretation and application.

1. **Comprehension** – Reading comprehension is asking the question: "What does the text say?" This is not always an easy thing to do. Sometimes in order to help us comprehend what the text says we will look up words in the dictionary, observe the setting that is described and make a list, or re-write passages of Scripture in our own words.
2. **Interpretation** – Once we know what the text says, we ask the question "What does the text mean?" Now I want to point out that we are not asking the question, "What does it mean to me?" The meaning of the text is determined by the original author and discovered by the reader.

3. **Application** – Once we know what the text says and discover what it means, then we are ready to finally ask the question, “How should this change me?”

“The Bible does tell us who we are and what we should do, but it does so through the lens of who God is. The knowledge of God and the knowledge of self always go hand in hand.” (Jen Wilkin, Women of the Word) We need to see ourselves in light of who God is. To do this we approach our study through a God-centered perspective by asking these questions:

- What does this passage teach me about God?
- How does this aspect of God’s character change my view of myself?
- What should I do in response?

These are extremely challenging questions to answer but they are important questions. In your workbooks I have these questions at the end of each lesson. You may struggle each week to answer those questions, but I do want you to try. I want you to wrestle with these questions in your thoughts and think them through and do your best to answer them.

### WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

In conclusion I have some words of encouragement that I want to give you before we start this journey...

1. **Have Fun** – Enjoy yourself. Delight yourself in God’s Word. In Jeremiah 15:16 the prophet Jeremiah says, “When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God of Heaven’s Armies.” Isn’t that a great encouragement to us?? Bible study is serious work. It’s hard work. But don’t ever forget that these words are words that are meant to be our joy and our heart’s delight!

2. **Don’t Stress** – You can’t have fun if you are stressed! This format of Bible study may be new to you and you may find the questions difficult or annoying or even unanswerable. I don’t want you to stress about the homework! I’m a “Type A” personality. I have the propensity that if I don’t answer all the questions in a workbook, or if they are not correct, I will have a personal crisis. I’ve had to learn to get over that. The point of many of these questions is to get you to think about what you are reading. I want to get both your mind and heart engaged in the Bible and wrestling with what

you are reading. Don't stress if you can't figure out the answers. Don't stress about whether your answers are right or wrong. Study. Read. Wrestle. Discuss. Learn. Have fun. But DON'T stress!

**3. Store Up Treasure** – When we approach the study of God's Word with a God-centered perspective and seek to faithfully read it within its context over a period of time, we are storing up treasure in our hearts. There are days when this may not feel beneficial. We may not get the sense of comfort we are looking for, or we may not have an "aha" moment of deep spiritual insight. However, faithfully reading and faithfully studying is faithfully abiding in the Word and there will be fruit. You are storing up treasure in your heart for the day when you will need it. I have found that there are seasons of life that we experience darkness and the Holy Spirit will take some of this cumulative treasure that you have been storing up, and will bring it to your memory to bring healing and comfort to your soul. So be encouraged to faithfully study and treasure up God's Word in your heart.

Thank you for joining me on this journey in Bible Study! I am praying that this study will be a source of encouragement and discovery and that through your labor to study well, your knowledge and love for the God who wrote this book will widen and deepen! May we together grow to be more like Christ as we behold Him in Scripture!

Grace and Peace,

*Cherie Leatherman*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

I am so thankful for the people that God has surrounded me with who encourage me in my walk with Him and spur me on in faithfulness.

- Kristi Wile, my friend, my sister, my co-laborer in Christ. You daily spur me on in my faith and obedience by encouraging and challenging me. I'm so grateful to have a friend like you.
- Gibson Largent, my pastor and my boss. You shepherd the flock at Ridgeline Community Church well. Thank you for feeding us through faithfully preaching the Word and for guarding and protecting us in the Truth. Thank you for encouraging me in ministry and for always seeing that I have every resource I need to grow in my ability to study and teach God's Word.
- Ridgeline Community Church - you are my people. I'm thankful for a church family who desires to be faithful to God's Word and to build up one another in the faith.
- Keith, my husband, friend, my confidant, my theological sounding board, my #1 supporter and encourager. Getting to live life with you has been one of God's greatest acts of kindness to me. I love you with all my heart.

## **Resources Used in Writing & Teaching this Study:**

ESV Study Bible

NIV Study Bible

NLT Study Bible

*Romans Study Guide* by Timothy Keller

*The Letter to the Romans*, Douglas J. Moo

[www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org)

*The Message of Romans* by John R. W. Stott

*The Gospel of God* by R. C. Sproul

*Romans Bible Study Series* by Dr. Michael J. Kruger, Reformed Theological Seminary



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*Unashamed of the Gospel:  
A Study in Romans*

*Part 1:  
Romans 1-8*





## **Week 1: Welcome & Introduction**

### **I. Introduction to the Word: Why & How We Read & Study the Bible**

II. Setting the Context for Romans

A. Who wrote Romans?

B. When was Romans written?

C. Who was Romans written to?

D. In what Style is Romans written?

E. What is the central theme of Romans?

Getting ready to study:

- If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to read the Foreword.
- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes that you may see wondrous things in God's Word (Psalm 119:18).
- Bible Memory Work: Romans 1:16-17 Write out these verses on a 3x5 card and begin working on memorization.

## **Week 2: Romans 1:1-17**

### **Unashamed of the Gospel**

In the introductory lesson we were introduced to the author of the letter of Romans.

This week we will spend some focused time looking into who Paul was and why what he wrote is considered Scripture.

**Read or listen through the entire book of Romans (takes approximately 1 hour).**

A letter is a letter. It is intended to be read as a whole. When the church in Rome received this letter from Paul, they would have read it in its entirety at their gathering. Let's take the time to do just that before we dive in to small sections of the book.

What section(s) were the most confusing to you?

What section(s) did you find the most interesting?

What major theme(s) did you notice as your read through the letter?

**Now let's focus our attention on Romans 1:1-6.**

1. Paul introduces himself as a servant of Jesus Christ who has been called to be an apostle, set apart for the "gospel of God." What is an apostle? (Check out [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org) for your answer.)

Why is it important for us to know that Paul is designated as an apostle?

2. Let's look at Paul's conversion and call to be an apostle of the "Gospel of God."

In Acts 7 we read of the stoning of Stephen, one of the first deacons in the brand new church. At the end of his story we are introduced to a young man named Saul who is later referred to as Paul. Read about what happened to Saul in Acts 9:1-18.

Who is Saul and what is his primary mission in life (verses 1-2)?

Describe the scene on the road to Damascus (verses 3-9).

What does Jesus do/say?

What does Saul do/say?

What do the men accompanying Saul do/say?



What specifically do we learn about God's plan for Saul in His conversation with Ananias (verses 10-19)?

Understandably, Ananias is a little hesitant to go to Saul as the Lord had instructed him to do. Saul was greatly feared among the Christians, and yet he is the very one God had called to proclaim the gospel and write a great portion of our New Testament. What does this reveal to you about God?

**APPLICATION:** *Do you ever think that someone is beyond the reach of the gospel? That they are too hard-hearted? The story of Paul shows us that no one is beyond the reach of God! Is there someone you are discouraged in praying for their salvation? Let Paul's story drive you to your knees in prayer for those who are lost. Spend some time praying for that person before you continue.*

*Saul's conversion literally changed the direction and the course of his life. His mission and purpose, and all of his plans were derailed by God. He was given a new mission, a new purpose, and all his plans were now submitted to God's plan. Is this unique to just Paul or is it true of all believers in Jesus Christ? Why?*

*How has your conversion changed the course/direction of your life? Spend some time writing out your reflections in the space provided.*

3. Look back at verses 1-6. What information can you glean about what the “Gospel of God” is from these 6 verses?
4. What do you think Paul means by “obedience of faith” in verse 5?
5. What is the purpose of “obedience of faith”?

**Read Romans 1:7-17.**

6. What words does Paul use to describe the recipients of his letter?
7. Paul says their faith is proclaimed in all the world. He had never personally been to Rome yet he has heard of the faith of these believers. How is it that a person’s faith is made known to others?

**APPLICATION:** *What would it look like today to live in such a way that your faith is “made known” and proclaimed to others?*

8. What do you observe about the things Paul prays about in verses 8-15?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What are his reasons for desiring to go to Rome?

What does Paul's prayer along with his reasons for going to Rome reveal about him?

***APPLICATION:*** Take a moment to reflect on your own prayer life. What do the things you predominately pray about reveal about you?

*How are you challenged and encouraged by the insight provided by God's Word into Paul's prayers regarding the believers in Rome?*

**Re-Read Romans 1:16-17. (This is your memory verse for the next 3 weeks!)**

10. What is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Keeping in mind what Paul has already said about the gospel of God, what additional information does he write in these verses concerning the gospel?

**APPLICATION:** In your own words write out what the gospel is?

*It is the GOSPEL of GOD that has THE power to save! Why are we at times ashamed of the gospel?*

*We as New Testament Christians can diminish what God has said is the power and come up with methods and ways that we think are more powerful. What are ways in which the church today (and we as individuals) look to other methods as the power to save?*

Wrap Up:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

**EXAMPLE:** Knowing that God is eternal shows me that I have a beginning and I have an end.

Practical steps to live in light of this truth:

- I recognize that I am limited - both in number of my days and in the time I have in each day. I need to repent of areas of my life where I live as if I were God - living and working as if I were eternal-wasting time or working as if it all depends on me.
- I also want to make the best use of my time, not wasting it on things that have no eternal value but rather filling it with things that do have eternal value.
- Evaluation of opportunities that come my way through the following lenses: 1) Would God be pleased with this (does it go against Scripture)? 2) Will doing this “thing” stir my affections for Jesus or rob me of time spent with Him?



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## **Week 2: Romans 1:1-17**

### **—NOTES—**

Getting ready to study:

- We are totally dependent upon the Holy Spirit as we study God's Word. Always start your study time with prayer. This week ask Him for a heart willing to receive His truth by faith.
- Bible Memory Work: Continue memorizing Romans 1:16-17.

## **Week 3: Romans 1:18-32**

### **God's Righteous Wrath Revealed**

*God's wrath is His  
righteousness reacting  
against unrighteousness.  
- J.I. Packer -*

**Read all of Romans chapter 1.**

**Now focus your attention on Romans 1:18-32. Read this section a second time.**

1. What two things is the wrath of God revealed against?
2. Look up “ungodliness” and “unrighteousness” in the dictionary and write the definitions in the space below.

ungodliness -

unrighteousness -

How are these two words alike? How are they different?

3. What specific thing is being done by the ungodly and the unrighteous?

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4. Look up the word “suppress” in the dictionary and write the definition that best fits this context in the space below.

***APPLICATION:*** Before we look at others in judgment, let us first take the beam out of our own eyes. In what ways can we be guilty of suppressing the truth in our own lives? In our churches? How can we combat against this?

5. God tells us that He has made Himself known in ways that are plain to the world around us. What ways has He made Himself known according to the text?

6. Look up and read Psalm 19. What is the psalmist communicating in this psalm that connects to Romans 1?

7. Romans 1:20 says that because God has made Himself clearly known, men and women are without excuse.

Who is this specifically referring to?

Are there any exceptions listed in the text?

What are the implications of this sobering truth we see in God's Word?

***APPLICATION:*** *An excuse is an explanation given as a reason for not doing an action or a plea offered for release from an obligation. What are ways in which we try to make excuses for our decisions or for ignoring or suppressing the truth that has been revealed to us?*

8. In verses 21-23 there is a progression that happens with the suppression of the truth. List this progression below.

**APPLICATION:** *We start with suppressing the truth about the true God and end the downward trajectory with the worship of false gods. Humankind is created to worship God. If we don't worship the true God, we will worship a god of our making. But don't miss this - it's starts with denying the truth about God as He has revealed Himself!*

*This is a hard truth. It's not just the people "out there" who do this. Our hearts, too, are tempted to deny the truth of who God is and exchange it for a version of god that is more palatable to us. Spend some time in reflection and prayer asking God to reveal to you ways in which you have done this and ask Him to help you to desire to receive God for who He is.*

9. Take note of the first word in Romans 1:24? Circle this word in your Bible.

What is this word connecting together?

10. What is God's response to the idolatry of humanity? What action does He take?

What reasons can you think of that He would do this?



11. How many times in verses 24-32 do you see the phrase "God gave them up"? \_\_\_\_  
Highlight this phrase in your copy of the text.
12. Fill in the chart below.

Passage	Humankind's Decision about God...	Connection Word(s) Used	God gave them up...
Verses 22-24		Therefore	
Verses 25-27			
Verses 28-31			

13. Based on what these verses teach us, what is at the root of all sinful behavior?
14. List in the space below the "fruit" sins Paul includes in verses 28-31.
15. What conclusions can you draw of the state of the human heart from what the Word of God tells us in Romans 1:18-31? Look up Jeremiah 17:9 to help you with your answer.

16. According to verse 32, what other knowledge do “they” know?

What are God’s decrees?

What two things are known about these decrees?

How do they know this information?

Wrap Up:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 3: Romans 1:18-32**

### **—NOTES—**



Getting ready to study:

- Each day before you study, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you a heart receptive to His Word.
- Bible Memory Work: This is your last week to work on memorizing Romans 1:16-17. Find a friend to test your memory.

## Week 4: Romans 2

### God's Righteous Judgment Revealed

*The Lord is coming to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with justice,  
and the nations with His truth.  
- Psalm 96:13 -  
(new living translation)*

#### Read through all of Romans 1 and 2.

1. Read 2:1-11 once again. Who is the "you" Paul is referring to in verses 1-5?

What clues from the text bring you to this conclusion?

2. Paul calls out this person for "judging". Who are they judging and why is their judgment wrong?
3. By what standard do we tend to judge ourselves and others?

What is the standard of judgment used by God?

4. Look up the following words and write the definitions in the space provided.

Presume:

Kindness:

Forbearance:

Patience:

Repentance:

Impenitent:

5. Rewrite Romans 2:1-5 in your own words keeping in mind the definitions that you have written above.

6. What is the condition of the hearts that are storing up God's wrath in Romans 2:5?

7. In what ways does God's kindness, forbearance, and patience lead people to repentance?

In what ways do people presume upon the riches of God's kindness and forbearance?

8. What is the day of God's wrath? Look up these passages and write what they tell us about the day of God's wrath (or the day of the Lord).

Isaiah 2:12 & 17 -

Isaiah 13:9 -

Obadiah 15 -

Acts 2:20-21 -

Romans 2:8-11 -

1 Thessalonians 5:2-3 -

2 Peter 3:10 -

Revelation 20:11-15 -

Summarize in your own words what will happen on the day of God's wrath?

9. Why does Scripture warn us that such a day is coming?

How are we intended to respond to such news?

**APPLICATION:** *If we truly believed a day was coming where God's righteous judgment would be revealed, how would that change the way we live today? How should that change our mission/purpose as individuals? As churches?*

*Spend some time in prayer on behalf of those who are lost and in need of a Savior.*

10. Read through Romans 2:6-11 again. These verses form a chiastic structure.

- A. God will judge everyone the same (v.6)
  - B. Those who do good will receive eternal life (v.7)
  - C. Those who do evil will receive wrath (v.8)
  - C. There will be tribulation and distress for those who do evil (v.9)
  - B. Those who do good receive honor, glory and peace (v.10)
- A. God judges without partiality (v.11)

What is the author seeking to emphasize in this chiastic structure?

#### What is a Chiasm?

A chiasm (or chiasmus if you rather) is a writing style that uses a unique repetition pattern for clarification and emphasis. It is a repetition of similar ideas in the reverse sequence.

Chiasm definition from Bible-Discernments.com



11. According to verses 6-11, on the day when God's righteous judgment is to be revealed, who will be the recipients of eternal life?

Who will be the recipients of wrath and fury?

12. In Romans 2:8-9 Paul says that those who do evil will receive wrath and God's fury. What is evil or disobedience to the truth according to the word of God? Look up the following passages of Scripture to help you with your answer.

John 3:16-21 -

John 8:39-47 -

**Read through Romans 2:12-29.**

13. Who is Paul referring to as those "apart from God's Law"?

How are they judged?

14. Who is Paul referring to as those "under the law"?

How are they judged?

15. In verses 14-16 we learn that those who are without the law by nature obey the law. What does this reveal about the law?

What does this reveal about God?

What then will condemn those without the law in the day of judgment?

16. In contrast, we learn in verses 17-27 that those “under the law” cannot rely upon that law as their defense before the Righteous Judge. Why is this a defense that will not stand in the day of judgment?

17. What does Paul tell us is the only thing that matters in verses 28-29?

What does this mean?

**APPLICATION:** *What is your response to seeing that all men and women are without excuse before God?*

*What defense have you prepared for the day of God’s wrath when you stand before the Righteous Judge? Will your defense be successful or fail? Explain.*

Wrap Up:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 4: Romans 2**


### **— Notes —**

Getting ready to study:

- Prepare your hearts to receive the Word of God by spending time in prayer asking the Lord to open your eyes and give you understanding.
- Bible Memory Work: Romans 3:21-26. Write out this passage on a 3x5 card and begin to work on memorizing it. You will be working on these verses for 4 weeks.

## Week 5: Romans 3:1-26

### God's Faithfulness Revealed



*If we are faithless,  
He remains faithful,  
for He cannot disown Himself.  
2 Timothy 2:13*

### Read through Romans 1-3.

1. Re-read Romans 3:1-8 in both the ESV and the NIV. What benefit does Paul say comes with being a Jew?
2. What does the NIV say that the “oracles of God” are?

What would we understand Paul to be referring to?

**APPLICATION:** *We cannot pass by this reference here to what we hold in our hands - the Bible - being the very words of God! Let this statement shock you. Think about this truth for a moment. How valuable are the very words of God? Do you treasure them? What does it mean to treasure the words of God?*

Israel was entrusted with the oracles of God, but so are we today. We - the church - have been entrusted with the very words of God passed down to us from generation to generation in our Bibles! You have ready access to these words. What priority ought these words have in your life? What priority DO they have in your life? What needs to change in you?

*Praying the Word:*

*Thank you Heavenly Father that You have entrusted us with your words! Help me to see the immeasurable worth of Your Words and help me to treasure them and share them with others! In Jesus Name, Amen.*

3. In what ways had the Jews been unfaithful in spite of being entrusted with the “very words of God”?
4. Look up the word “nullify” in the dictionary and rewrite verse 3 in your own words.
5. In Romans 3:4 Paul quotes from Psalm 51:4. Read Psalm 51. Who authored this psalm and in what context did he write it?

How does this fit into what Paul is saying in Romans?

6. Look up the word “prevail” in the dictionary and write the definition below.

What are David and Paul communicating about God in these verses?

7. In light of what Paul has said in verses 1-4, what argument to justify themselves do people give?

What is Paul’s (and God’s) opinion of this argument?

**Read Romans 3:9-20.**

8. What are other words that we could use to substitute for Jews and Greeks without changing the meaning of what Paul is saying?
9. In what way does Paul say in verse 9 that “Jews” and “Greeks” are the same?

It is obvious as we look around us that some people are more sinful than others. In light of this, what is Paul communicating in verse 9?

10. In verses 10-18 Paul has strung together verses from the Old Testament Scriptures. Look up the following verses and identify how each of these verses connect with Romans 3:10-18.

Psalm 14:1-3:

Psalm 53:1-3:

Ecclesiastes 7:20:

Psalm 5:9:

Psalm 140:3:

Psalm 10:7:

Isaiah 59: 7-8:

Psalm 36:1:

11. In what ways does Romans 3:19-20 summarize what Paul is saying in verses 1-18?

**APPLICATION:** *One of the most difficult things for a person to acknowledge is the truth that there is none righteous, no not one. In reality we do think we are righteous. That is why the just judgment of God is so offensive to us. Does the statement that there are “none righteous” offend you?*

*How can we come to the place where we are able to see our unrighteousness before a Holy God?*



*Why is seeing our unrighteousness before God so important?*

*Briefly write about how it was that you came to see the truth of these verses in Romans 1-3 in your life? Spend some time in prayer giving thanks to God for revealing this to you in your life!*

**Read Romans 3:21-26.**

12. What is the first word in Romans 3:21? \_\_\_\_\_ Circle this word in your Bible.

What is the significance of this word?

13. Look up the word “manifested” in the dictionary and rewrite verse 21 in your own words with this definition in mind.

14. The righteousness of God “has been manifested apart from the Law.” What does Paul say that the Law does then?

15. How is the righteousness from God made manifest (verse 22)?

How does a person acquire righteousness from God?

16. What is the righteousness from God not based on according to verses 22b-24?

17. Look up the following words in the dictionary and write the definitions below:

justified (justification) -

redemption -

propitiation -

The NIV Bible uses the word “atonement.” Look that word up in the dictionary as well and write the definition in the space below.

18. The themes of atonement and redemption are threads that run through the whole Bible. Look up the following passages and note how they point to this theme?

Genesis 3:21 -

Genesis 22:1-14 -

Leviticus 16:3-17 -

19. How do these Old Testament passages of Scripture help us understand with deeper appreciation that God presented His Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins?
20. How does Jesus' death on the cross show God to be both just and the justifier (Romans 3:26)?

**APPLICATION:** God Himself provided the Lamb! What does this mean to you?

*Praying the Word:*

*Thank you Heavenly Father that You would present your Son as a sacrifice of atonement for MY sins! Thank you that through the shedding of His blood I have found forgiveness of sins and the righteousness that comes by faith.  
In Jesus Name, Amen.*

Wrap Up:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 5: Romans 3:1-26**

### **—NOTES—**



Getting ready to study:

- When we study God's Word we sit under it's authority. Recognize that you are in a position of humility and ask that the Holy Spirit would teach you truth.
- Bible Memory Work: Continue working on memorizing Romans 3:21-26 throughout this week.

## Week 6: Romans 3:27-4:25

### Faith Alone

*Salvation is by grace alone  
through faith alone  
because of Christ alone.  
- Ephesians 2:8&9 -*

This week read Romans chapters 1-4.

We are going to first focus on Romans 3:27-31.

1. When Paul says "what becomes of OUR boasting?" in verse 27, to whom is he referring? Jews or Gentiles? Explain your answer.
2. Why does being justified by faith exclude boasting?

**APPLICATION:** "What you boast in is the thing that gives you confidence, makes you able to face life, and gives you a sense of worth." (Tim Keller) What are some of the things you are tempted to boast in?

*"Pride is the greatest barrier to the gospel." (Gibson Largent, pastor of Ridgeline Community Church) How have you found this to be true in your experience?*

3. In verses 29-30, what do the Jews and Gentiles have in common?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Look up "overthrow" and "uphold" in the dictionary. Re-write verse 31 in your own words according to the definitions.

**APPLICATION:** *What is your view of God's law? Do you view it as something that is overthrown or something that is upheld? Why?*



**Focus your attention on Romans 4:1-12. Read through these verses out loud.**

5. Last week you looked up the word “justified” in the dictionary (page 44). Re-write the definition in the space below.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. In your own words what are “works” that people believe they are justified by?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. In your own words how are people justified by faith?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What do these verses tell us about how Abraham was justified before God?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Let’s look back at the story of Abraham. Read Genesis 15:1-6. What were the promises that God gave to Abraham that he believed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What caused Abraham to be counted righteous?

What did not cause Abraham to be counted as righteous?

11. In verses 9-12 Paul talks a lot about the “circumcised.” This is another way of referring to the Jewish people. Circumcision was a sign of their covenant with Yahweh their God and it was initiated with Abraham. Read Genesis 17:1-14; 22-27.

What is the covenant God makes with Abraham that is “sealed” with circumcision?

What is Abraham’s response to God?

Was this institution of the sign of the covenant before or after Abraham was counted as righteous?

12. How does Paul help us to understand what God is doing in Genesis with Abraham by his explanation in Romans 4:11?
13. Look up the word “seal” in the dictionary? What does it mean according to this passage?
14. What is the New Testament “sign” of the covenant that correlates to the Old Testament sign of circumcision? Look up Colossians 2:11-12 to help with your answer.

What is the New Testament “seal” of the covenant? Look up Ephesians 1:13 and 4:30 to help with your answer.

15. Why does Paul spend so much time explaining the order of the events of Abraham's justification? Why does this order matter?

How then are we justified today?

16. Who are the true "offspring" of Abraham according to Romans 4:9-12?

**APPLICATION:** *Read Genesis 15:5 and consider the innumerable stars that are twinkling in the night sky as the Lord and Abraham looked upon them. Are you one of the number of offspring represented by those stars?*

*Briefly write the story of the time when you, like Abraham, believed God and it was counted to you as righteousness.*

*Spend some time in prayer giving thanks to your Heavenly Father for the faith to believe His Word and His promises!*

**Focus your attention on Romans 4:13-25. Read these verses aloud.**

17. What is the promise given to Abraham and his offspring? How did Paul summarize this promise in Romans?

Look back and read Genesis 17:1-8 again and list everything included in this promise that Paul summarized.

18. How are the promises of God inherited? Check all that apply.

☐ Righteousness that comes by obedience to the Law

☐ Righteousness that comes by Faith

19. Who are the offspring of Abraham according to verses 16-25 that will inherit the promises?

**APPLICATION:** *Do you live as if the promise that God gave to Abraham and to all his offspring are inherited through your obedience or through faith? Give examples from your life.*

20. Look up the word “wrath” and write the definition in the space below.

In what ways does the law bring wrath?

21. Look up the word “transgress” in the dictionary and write the definition below.

How is there no transgression when there is no law?

22. Why does the promise rest on faith?

23. Why is the promise resting on faith a better guarantee than the promise resting on ourselves and our works?

24. What do we learn about Abraham’s faith in the promises of God from verses 16-25? List all that you observe in the space below.

**APPLICATION:** *How do these verses challenge you in your faith in the promises of God?*

*How has your belief in God sustained you and deepened your faith in a time of hopelessness?*

Wrap Up:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

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**Week 6: Romans 3:27-4:25**  
**—NOTES—**



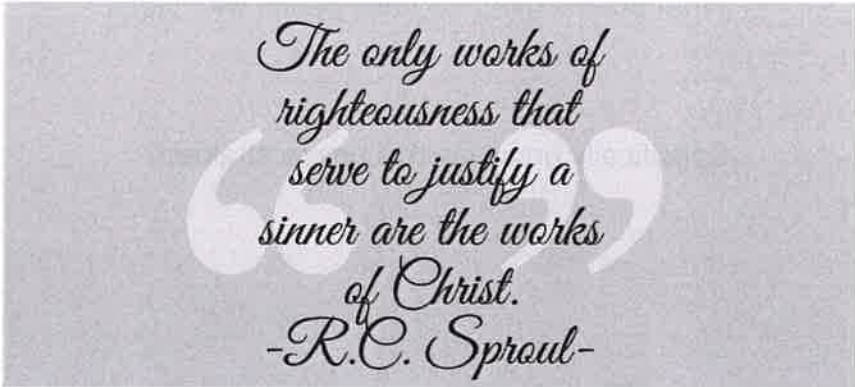


Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask that as you study Romans 5 Jesus would become more beautiful to you.
- Bible Memory Work: Continue to work on memorizing Romans 3:21-26

## Week 7: Romans 5

### In Christ Alone!



*The only works of  
righteousness that  
serve to justify a  
sinner are the works  
of Christ.  
-R.C. Sproul-*

**Read Romans 1-5.**

**Focus your attention on Romans 5:1-11. Read through them again.**

1. What is the first word in Romans 5:1? \_\_\_\_\_

What ideas are being connected by this word?

2. List below all the benefits that come because of justification by faith that are in verses 1-5.

3. Why do we need peace with God? Read Colossians 1:21-23 to help with your answer.

What does it mean to have peace with God?

Specifically how was this peace attained?

**APPLICATION:** *It is common in our cultural context for people inside and outside the church to make the claim that all roads lead to God. What is meant by that is that there are many ways or religions that will take us to God - to find peace with God. How does Romans 5:1 deny this belief?*

4. Look up the words “access” and “grace” in the dictionary. Now rewrite verse 2 in your own words.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. By faith we access the grace in which we now stand. What does it mean to stand in grace?

**APPLICATION:** How has knowing that we stand in God's grace changed the way you think? How does it change the way you live? How does it change the way you treat others?

6. Look back at Romans 5:2-4. What does it look like to rejoice in the hope of the glory of God?

Is rejoicing in the hope of the glory of God dependent on circumstances? Why or why not?

7. What are the reasons that Paul gives for us to rejoice in our sufferings?
8. What are the ways that we can know that God loves us (verses 5-8)?

**APPLICATION:** Under what circumstances do you find yourself questioning or doubting God's love for you? What are you basing God's love for you on in those times?

*When you find yourself questioning or doubting God's love for you, what are some practical ways to fight against that?*

9. Look up Romans 5:6 in the ESV Bible. What word does it use to describe our condition?

\_\_\_\_\_

Now look it up in the NIV Bible. What word does it use to describe our condition?

\_\_\_\_\_

Now look it up in the NLT Bible. What word does it use to describe our condition?

\_\_\_\_\_

How do these words help us understand our condition before God?

10. How does verse 10 describe our condition before God?

11. Look up the word “reconcile” in the dictionary and write the definition in the space below.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. What does it mean to be reconciled to God through Jesus?

**APPLICATION:** *What are the implications in your life personally that you have been reconciled to God? How does this impact your relationship with God?*

*How does this reconciliation impact your relationship with others? Family? Friends? Co-workers? Neighbors?*

*Praying the Word:*

*Thank you, Father, for your unfathomable love for us that at just the right time, while we were still weak, while we were still dead in our sin, Christ died for us! We rejoice that through the death of Your Son, we have now received reconciliation.*

*We rejoice and give thanks that we no longer are your enemies! We give you thanks! We give you praise!*

*In Jesus Name, Amen.*

**Read through Romans 5:12-21.**

13. Circle every time Paul mentions “free gift” in verses 12-21. How many times does he say this? \_\_\_\_\_

What is included in the “free gift” (verses 15-17)?

The word “justification” is key in our understanding of the gospel. Write the meaning of this word once again in the space provided to refresh your memory. (See pages 44/51.)

14. How is Adam a type of Christ? How is the comparison between Adam and Christ the same?

How is the comparison not the same?

15. What do these verses tell us about what we have as Adam’s children?

16. What does Romans 5:12-21 tell us we have as God’s children?

17. How does the law increase the trespass (verse 20)?

What is the result of the increase of sin according to verse 20?

**APPLICATION:** *How does knowing that there is grace for your sin impact and change your life and the way you view your sin?*

Wrap Up:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



## **Week 7: Romans 5**

### **—NOTES—**



## Week 8: Romans 6

### Slaves to Righteousness

Getting ready to study:

- Before each day in God's Word, spend some time asking God to give you a heart to receive His Word.
- Bible Memory Work: Continue memorizing Romans 6:17-18. Consider working on it with a friend.

*He Himself bore our sins  
on the tree,  
that we might die to sin and  
live to righteousness.  
-Apostle Peter-  
1 Peter 2:24*

#### Read Romans 1-6.

How have you grown in your understanding of Romans over the course of these past few weeks?

Have any passages that had originally caused you confusion been made clear? If so, which ones?

#### Now focus your attention on Romans 6:1-14.

1. Paul had just made a statement in Romans 5:20-21 that where sin increased, grace abounded all the more. The immediate normal response might then be, "Well, if this is true then we ought to continue in sin, so that God's grace may abound." What reason(s) does Paul give in Romans 6:1-4 for why this is NOT the correct response?

2. What does Paul mean when he makes the claim that we have “died to sin”?

verses 2-4:

verses 5-7:

3. What conclusion can we draw about our relationship with Christ’s death and resurrection from Romans 6:1-7?

Look up the following verses and note how they help with your understanding of Romans 6:1-7.

Colossians 3:3, 5 -

1 Peter 2:24 -

4. In verses 8-14 Paul gives application to the truth that we have died with Christ. What does Paul tell us the implications of this truth are to believers? List as many as you can find.

**APPLICATION:** Are there areas of sin in your life that the Holy Spirit has reminded you of as you've studied this passage that you have not died to?

What practical steps will you take in order that this sin will no longer have dominion over you and that you will walk in the righteousness to which you have been called?

*Praying the Word:*

*Heavenly Father, I present myself to you as one who has been brought from death to life. I want all of me - my mind, my soul, my body - to be an instrument of righteousness. I no longer want sin to have dominion over me for I am a recipient of your amazing grace! Now may the God of peace sanctify me completely, keeping my whole spirit, soul and body blameless at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Father, you have called me and you are faithful; you will surely do this work in me. In Jesus Name, Amen.*

5. Read Romans 6:15-23 two times. What repeated word is used the most in this section? How many times is it used?

According to these verses, is anyone not a slave? \_\_\_\_\_

6. We will either be a slave to \_\_\_\_\_ or a slave to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. What is the difference between these two masters?

8. Look up the following passages of Scripture. What do they teach us about “slavery”?

John 8:34 - (The ESV uses the word “practice.” Look this word up in the dictionary. What does “practice” mean in this context?)

2 Peter 2:19 -

9. How can you be a slave to obedience? Obedience to what? Look up the following passages to help with your answer.

Romans 6:17 -

2 Timothy 1:13-14 -

Titus 1:9 -

10. In light of these passages of Scripture, where can we go to find sound teaching?

11. How does Paul describe these believers’ attitude to the pattern of teaching? (Romans 6:17)

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12. What is the result of their commitment to sound teaching according to verse 18?

**APPLICATION:** What does it look like to be committed to (have allegiance to) sound teaching? How does that look in the life of a believer?

*Prayerfully and honestly ask yourself the question, "What is my level of commitment or allegiance to sound teaching?"*

13. In Romans 6:19 Paul contrasts what the believers once were slaves to and what they are now slaves to.

What were they slaves to in the past? \_\_\_\_\_

And what did that slavery lead to? \_\_\_\_\_

What are they now slaves to? \_\_\_\_\_

What does this slavery lead to? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Look up the word "sanctification" in the dictionary. Write the definition in the space below.

15. In Romans 6:20 Paul says that when the believers were slaves to sin they were free from righteousness. What does that mean?

16. Being set free from slavery to sin frees believers up to be slaves of whom?

What are the benefits of this slavery?

17. Summarize Romans 6:15-23 in your own words in 2-3 sentences.

**APPLICATION:** *What does freedom from the law mean to you? How does that compare to what Paul is teaching about freedom?*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?



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## **Week 8: Romans 6**

### **—NOTES—**



## Week 9: Romans 7

### Freedom from the Law

Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you study Romans 7. Ask Him to make His Word clear to you.
- Bible Memory Work: Continue to work on memorizing Romans 6:17-18.

*Christian liberty is  
freedom from sin;  
Not freedom to sin.  
A.W. Tozer*

**Read Romans 1-7.**

**Focus your attention on Romans 7:1-6.**

1. Who specifically is Paul addressing in this passage?

Could there be more than one group of people being addressed in these verses?

2. What is the law that Paul is referring to?

Could there be more than one kind of law that Paul is referring to?

3. Paul uses the example of marriage to show what he means by the law being binding. Look up the word “bind” in the dictionary and write its meaning below.

In what ways is marriage binding?

Are these restrictions in marriage a good thing or a bad thing? Explain your answer.

What releases a person from the restrictions of marriage?

4. With Paul's example of marriage in mind, what point is he making about being bound to the law? In what ways does the law bind us (or restrict us)?

Are these restrictions a good thing or a bad thing? Explain your answer.

By whose death is a person released from being bound to the law?

5. What do you think it means to die to the law? (Do not be afraid to wrestle with this question!)
6. For what purpose do we die to the law according to verse 4?
7. What would be some examples of bearing fruit for God? See Galatians 5:22-23.

What would be some examples of bearing fruit for death? See Galatians 5:19-21.

8. In what way does the law arouse sinful passions in us?
9. What is the difference between serving in the way of the Spirit versus the way of the written code or the law?

Look up 2 Corinthians 3:3, 6-8 to help with your answer.

	The Written Code	The Way of the Spirit
Who wrote it?	_____	_____
What is it written on?	_____	_____
What is being written?	_____	_____
What is the result?	_____	_____

**Now let's focus on Romans 7:7-25 where Paul will further explain what he means when he speaks about the law arousing the sinful passions within us. Read through the passage 2 times.**

10. What questions come into your mind as you read this somewhat confusing section of Scripture?
11. A question that arises from Paul's teaching on the law is that the law must surely be a bad thing. But Paul says absolutely not. What is the purpose of the law?

12. What was the result of the law against coveting in Paul's life?

Why did the law have this effect on him?

13. What is the deceiving factor here—the law or sin? How?

14. What do you think Paul means when he says that he was once alive apart from the law and then when the commandment came sin came alive and he died?

***APPLICATION:*** *The revelation of sin in our lives is an on-going process that is brought about by the Spirit of God in the lives of believers. Have you ever noticed that when the Holy Spirit begins to reveal a sin in your life that you had not known previously, all you can see is how pervasive this sin is? Everywhere you look - there it is! How has this been true in your life?*

15. Look up Exodus 20:1-17 and read through the Ten Commandments. How do each of these commandments expose a deeper heart issue?

**APPLICATION:** *Do you allow the reading of God's Word to expose sin in your life or do you tend to stay away from the parts of the Word that would expose your sinfulness?*

16. How does sin deceive through the commands of God to bring death? Look up Genesis 3:1-7 to help you with your answer.

**APPLICATION:** *We've all experienced the deceitfulness of sin at work in us in the way that Paul is talking about. How has sin deceived you as you read the Word of God? Spend some time in prayer asking God to expose areas in your heart where you are being deceived by sin in your life.*

17. In the midst of this discussion about the law, it may be easy to forget that Scripture teaches that the "law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good (Romans 7:12)." Look up the following verses and note what each one says about the law.

Psalm 19:7-9 -

Psalm 119:137 -

In light of these passages of Scripture, what jumps out to you as the reason that the law is holy and righteous and good?

18. So what then is producing death according to Romans 7:13?
19. In verses 14-23 Paul talks about a battle that is waging war within him. Describe with as many details as possible from these passages what this battle is all about.
20. To where does this intense battle drive Paul to (verses 24-25)?

**APPLICATION:** Do you recognize such a battle as Paul describes in your own life? Have you ever been overwhelmed by the wretchedness of your own sinful flesh? Spend some time journaling in the space below about your own battle with sin.

### *Praying the Word:*

*Heavenly Father, What a wretched woman I am. I do what I don't want to do and I don't do what I do want to do. Who will deliver me from this body of death???* Thank you, Father, that it is through Jesus that I have been delivered, I am being delivered, and I will ultimately be delivered from this body of death! Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*When was the last time your battle with sin has driven you to your knees in desperation asking for deliverance? Spend some time talking with your Heavenly Father about your need for deliverance from sin. Be specific in your prayers. Name your sin.*



WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 9: Romans 7**

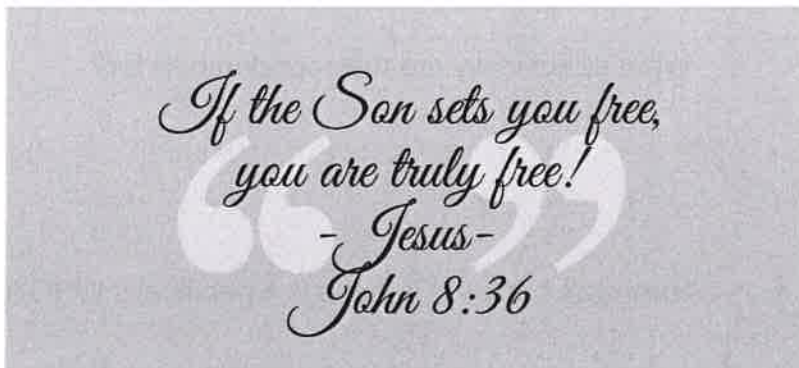
### **—NOTES—**

Getting ready to study:

- As you study this week pray that the Holy Spirit would give you understanding and to help you walk according to the Spirit.
- Bible Memory Work: Write out Romans 8:28-30 on a 3x5 card and begin working on memorizing these verses.
- Review your previous memory verses.

## Week 10: Romans 8:1-17

### Set Free to Live by the Spirit



#### Read through Romans 1-8.

Now focus your attention on Romans 8:1-11. Re-read these verses before answering the following questions.

1. The NIV version of Romans 8 begins with the word “therefore.” Why is this word significant?

What is this word connecting to?

2. Look up the word “condemn” in the dictionary and write the definition below.

What does it mean that “there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1)?

3. Look up John 3:16-21. As you read through this passage underline the word “condemn” each time it is used.

Who does Jesus say is condemned?

What specifically are they condemned for?

4. Now look back to Romans 8. Specifically WHO is no longer under condemnation?

Why are they no longer under condemnation? (John 3:18 and Romans 8:2-4) What exactly has God done and how has He done this? Write down everything you see in these verses.

5. Which of the following is included in the “no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus?” (Check all that apply)



Past Sins



Present Sins



Future Sins

**APPLICATION:** Why is it important for us to understand this truth of “no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus” with not just our minds but also with our hearts? How should this impact the way you live?

If we still live as if we are under condemnation, how does this impact our behavior? How does this impact our relationships? With God? With others?

Do you find yourself more inclined to continue to live as if you are under condemnation or free from condemnation? What practical steps can you take to remind yourself of the truth of freedom from condemnation promised in Scripture?

*Praying the Word:*

*Thank You, Father, for sending Your Son into the world, to take on the likeness of our sinful flesh, to bear the condemnation of my sin in His body. Thank you, Jesus, for being willing and obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for setting me free of condemnation in Christ Jesus! Who the Son sets free is free indeed. May I never lose the wonder of your mercy to me! Amen.*

6. Paul compares two ways to live in Romans 8:5-7. List them below.

7. Fill in all the differences between life in the flesh and life in the Spirit in the chart below.

Life according to the flesh	Life according to the Spirit

8. How does hostility to God reveal itself in a person?
9. Summarize what Paul means when he talks about living according to the flesh.

**Read through Romans 8:9-17 in the ESV and in the NIV.**

10. Contrasted with living according to the flesh is living by the Spirit. Who is included in the “you” Paul is referring to in verse 9?

11. How is life in the Spirit different from life in the flesh? Go back and review what Paul says in verses 1-8 to include in your answer.

12. In Romans 7, Paul took great pains to explain how we are no longer bound to the law. According to Romans 8 to whom then are we bound?

How is this different?

13. What is the result of living according to the flesh?

14. What is the result of living according to the Spirit?

**Colossians 3:1-14 is a helpful passage as we contemplate putting to death the deeds of the flesh. Read through this passage as you answer questions 15-16 and the application question.**

15. Is our role active or passive in living by the Spirit according to Romans 8:13?

What are we to put to death?

16. What are deeds of the flesh? See Colossians 3:5-10 to help with your answer.

How are these deeds put to death?

What is the motivation for putting these deeds to death?

**APPLICATION:** *Are you actively pursuing putting to death the deeds of your flesh? What would this look like on a daily basis? What is your motivation to fight sin? What steps will you take to become more engaged in the battle against your flesh?*

17. According to Romans 8:12-17, what is the identity of those led by the Spirit?
18. Do you receive the Spirit of adoption because you are walking by the Spirit OR do you walk by the Spirit as evidence of your adoption? Give a reason for your answer.
19. What does it mean that we have received the Spirit of adoption as sons? List everything Paul includes in these verses.



20. Look up the word “heir” in the dictionary and write the definition below.

21. What do the following verses tell us about our inheritance?

Galatians 3:29 -

Psalm 16:5-6 -

1 Peter 1:4 -

Hebrews 11:8-10 -

Revelation 21:1-5 -

**APPLICATION:** *How does knowing that you are a “son” of God and co-heir with Christ change the way you live today?*

*How does that impact your battle with sin?*

*How does it impact your endurance in suffering?*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

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## **Week 10: Romans 8:1-17**

### **—NOTES—**



Getting ready to study:

- As you study this week pray that God's Word would fill you with hope and this hope would spill out of you into the lives of others.
- Bible Memory Work: Continue memorizing Romans 8:28-30. Work on reciting it with a friend.

## Week 11: Romans 8:18-39

### The Hope of the Gospel



May the God of hope fill  
you with all joy and  
peace as you trust in  
Him, so that you may  
overflow with hope by  
the power of the Holy Spirit.  
-Apostle Paul-  
Romans 15:13

#### Read through Romans 1-8.

Focus your attention on Romans 8:18-39. Read through this passage twice: once in the ESV and once in the NIV.

1. Read verses 16-18 together. What does Paul mean when he says that we are fellow heirs "**provided** we suffer with him"?
2. How should we consider present suffering? Look up the following passages to help with your answer.  
  
Romans 8:18 -  
  
2 Corinthians 4:17 -  
  
1 Peter 5:10 -
3. In verses 18-39, what are some ways that our Heavenly Father through His Word is seeking to encourage and help us to persevere in faith through seasons of suffering?

4. In these same verses, what are some purposes that you observe that our Heavenly Father brings about in our lives through seasons of suffering? Look up James 1:2-4 and 1 Peter 1:6-7 to bring additional insight into your answer.

**APPLICATION:** Words like “light and momentary” are not often in our minds when we are in the midst of suffering. Sometimes seasons of suffering can feel anything but light and momentary. But suffering is a part of our reality. It is a part of living in a fallen world and Christians are not immune to it or exempt from it. Share about a season of suffering in your life.

*How did God enable you to persevere in faith?*

*What are some of the ways that God worked in your life bringing about the fruit of Christ-likeness through that season of time?*

5. Creation also is impacted by the fall. What is Paul referring to when he speaks of “creation”?

Look up the word “futility.” Write the definition below.

In what ways has creation been subjected to futility?

6. Both creation and we groan as in pains of childbirth. How do you see creation groaning?

How do you see this inward groaning in YOUR life?

7. Paul tells us that even though believers groan along with creation, we have been given the first fruits of the Spirit. What does he mean? Look up the following verses to help with your answer

2 Corinthians 1:22 -

2 Corinthians 5:5 -

Ephesians 1:14 -

8. What is in store for creation at the revealing of the sons of God?

What is in store for believers in that day?

9. What word does Paul use to describe how believers wait for our adoption as sons?

\_\_\_\_\_

Look up this word in a thesaurus. Write 3 synonyms that best fit how we are to wait.

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**APPLICATION:** Describe a time in your life when you were eagerly anticipating an event. Describe your emotions, your thought processes, your actions in that time period.

*Would you say that you are eagerly anticipating the day of Christ's return in that same way?*

*What are some practical ways that you can stoke the fires of anticipation for His return?*

10. How does the dictionary define the word "hope"?

What is the hope of believers?

How are we waiting for this hope (verse 25)?

**APPLICATION:** Eager & patient seem to be contradictory ways of waiting for something! How do we wait for our adoption with both eagerness and patience?



11. Focus your attention on verses 26-27. What do you see that we are to be doing as we wait with eagerness and anticipation?

How does the Holy Spirit help us in this?

Why do we need the help of the Spirit?

How does this give you comfort and encouragement as you pray?

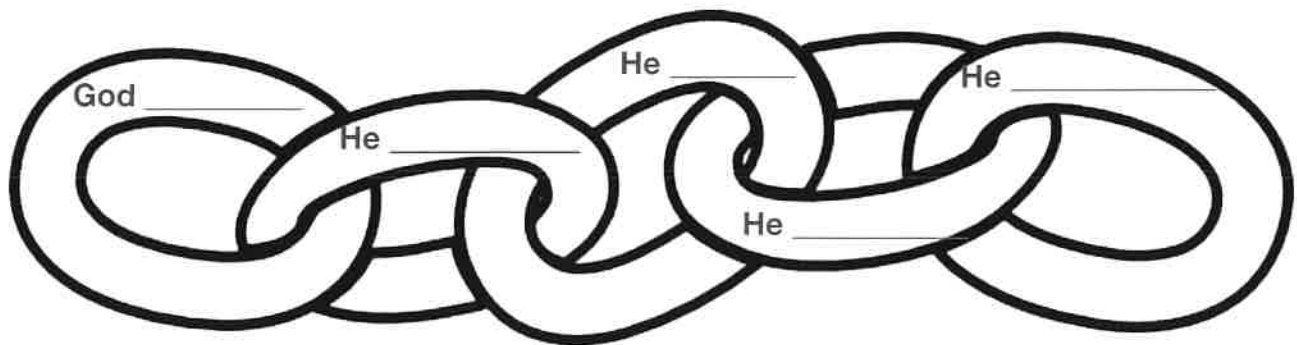
12. Read Romans 8:28. What is God working together for good?

For whom is God working things together for good?

According to whose will and plan is God working things together for good?

How does Romans 8:28 help us to wait with eagerness and patience?

13. Romans 8:29-30 is called the chain of redemption. Let's fill in each of the links in the chain.



14. Now look up the meaning of each of the five words in the chain and write the definition in space designated below.

Link 1	Link 2	Link 3	Link 4	Link 5

15. In each of the links is the verb in the

- ☐ Past Tense
- ☐ Present Tense
- ☐ Future Tense

What conclusion(s) about salvation can you draw from this?

16. In verses 29-30 who is doing the action?

Who is passive?

What conclusion(s) about salvation can you draw from this?

17. Now let's focus on Romans 8:31-39. Read through the text twice. How do we know God loves us and is for us?

18. What is Jesus doing right now on our behalf according to these verses?

Look up the word "intercede" in the dictionary and write the definition below.

**APPLICATION:** How does knowing that Jesus is right now interceding on your behalf change the way you live?

Spend some time "praying the Word" and giving thanks for the intercessory ministry of Christ.

*Praying the Word:*

*Thank You, Father, that you are for us; that there is nothing in heaven and on earth that can separate us from the love you have for us in Christ Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, that you are even now interceding on our behalf before the Father. Thank you, Holy Spirit, that you help us to pray according to the Father's will. We wait eagerly and patiently for the fulfillment of our salvation. Even so come, Lord Jesus. Amen.*

19. List below everything that Paul lists that cannot separate us from the love of God.

What do you notice about this list?

Is there anything that will be able to separate those who are in Christ Jesus from God's love?

**APPLICATION:** *Do you believe that nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus? How will believing this change the way you live and wait for the coming of Christ?*

## SUMMARY OF ROMANS 1-8:

As you have studied the first half of Paul's letter to the believers in Rome, have there been any passages of Scripture that you understand more clearly now than you did at the beginning of this study?

What was your favorite passage in Romans 1-8? Why?

## WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 11: Romans 8:18-39**

### **—NOTES—**

*Unashamed of the Gospel:  
A Study in Romans*

*Part 2:  
Romans 9-16*





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## **Week 1: Introduction & Review of Romans 1-8**

### **-NOTES-**



Getting ready to study:

- We are so dependent on the Lord to reveal Himself to us through His Word. Ask the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart for His truth and make you receptive to what the Scriptures say about our God!
- Bible Memory Work: Review last semester's memory verses. Write Romans 10:13-15 on a 3x5 card and begin memorizing.

## Week 2: Romans 9:1-29

### God's Sovereign Grace

*Men treat God's sovereignty as  
a theme for controversy,  
but in Scripture it is a matter  
of worship.  
J. I. Packer*

**Read or listen through the book of Romans  
(takes approximately 1 hour).**

As you read through Romans 1-8, did anything jump out at you as something new?

sovereignty |'säv(ə)rəntē|  
**supreme power or  
authority**

As you read through Romans 9-16, which section was most confusing or difficult for you to understand?

What section(s) did you find the most interesting?

**Now read through Romans 9 again. We are going to focus our attention on verses 1-24.**

1. Describe Paul's feelings regarding his fellow Israelites. Why does he feel this way?

***APPLICATION:*** *What are your feelings regarding those in your circle of family/friends who are unbelievers? Do you share Paul's feelings? Why or why not? How do Paul's feelings challenge you in your relationship with unbelievers? How do they challenge you in your prayer life?*

2. List all the gifts of grace God had given to the Israelites that are found in verse 4. Draw a line from each gift to the Scripture passage that speaks to the truth of these gifts of grace.

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Acts 13:32-33

Hebrews 9:1

Exodus 4:22

Exodus 40:34

Deuteronomy 4:13-14

Genesis 17:1-3

3. In Romans 9:5 what is the ultimate gift of grace that has come through the people of Israel?

4. In what way does it appear that the Word of God had failed (verse 6)?

Paul explains in verses 6-8 why the Word of God has not failed. What is Paul's explanation? Look up Ephesians 3:6 to help with your answer.

**APPLICATION:** *God, through the Apostle Paul, reminds us that His Word cannot and does not fail, even if on the surface it may appear that way. How can this knowledge encourage and comfort us and help us persevere in faith?*

5. In verses 6-13, who are the true offspring of Abraham and how did they become offspring of Abraham?

What are the implications then about the promises of God toward the offspring of Abraham?

6. Look up the word "elect" in the dictionary and then write at least 3 synonyms for this word in the space below.

7. What two examples does Paul give in Romans 9:6-13 to show the doctrine of election?

- Look up Genesis 17:15-19 for context and to help with your answer.

- Look up Genesis 25:19-23 for context and to help with your answer.

8. What is God's purpose in election according to Romans 9:11?

9. In Romans 9:13 Paul quotes from Malachi 1:2-5. Go back and read this passage. What do you think God means when He says, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I hated?"

**APPLICATION:** *What is your reaction to what Paul is teaching in Romans 9:6-13? Why do you think you have this reaction?*

10. What reaction does Paul anticipate his readers having to this teaching beginning in verse 14?

11. In verse 15 Paul quotes from Exodus 33:18-19. Look up this passage of Scripture.

What does Moses ask God to do?

How does God respond to Moses' request?

What is God revealing about Himself to Moses?

What is God revealing about Himself to us through Romans 9:15 today?

12. Look up the word "mercy" in the dictionary and write the definition that best fits the context in the space below.

Who has the right or the power to show mercy?

Is mercy deserved or undeserved?

13. What point is Paul making about God's mercy toward people? (verse 16)

14. Paul uses Pharaoh and the Exodus to serve as an example of how the Lord shows mercy on whom He will show mercy. Read verse 17. Circle all the pronouns in this verse. To whom are they referring?

What do you learn about God through this verse?

15. Look up the following passages of Scripture and mark who was responsible for hardening Pharaoh's heart:

	Pharaoh	God
Exodus 4:21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 7:3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 8:15	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 8:32	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 9:12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 9:34	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 14:4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exodus 14:17	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Summarize your observations about who is responsible for hardened hearts.



16. Romans 9:19 again anticipates the human response to the truth about God's sovereign will. Read verse 19. Does Paul accurately anticipate your response to verses 14-18?

What is underneath your response to the Word of God?

17. How does Paul answer our responses in verses 20-24?

18. What attributes of God are displayed in showing mercy?

What attributes of God are displayed in showing wrath?

**APPLICATION:** *In what way does re-orienting our perspective away from our thoughts and understandings toward God and His Sovereignty lead us to humility and to the fear of the Lord?*

*How does it lead us to worship God?*

**Focus your attention on Romans 9:25-29. Read through these verses.**

19. In Romans 9:25-26 Paul quotes from Hosea. Who is Paul implying are the “not my people” who become “my people”?

How do they become “my people” according to these verses?

20. Who is responsible for preserving a remnant of Israel (verses 27-29)?

What would have become of Israel if a remnant had not been preserved?

Can you think of examples from the Old Testament where this truth is seen?  
Write your examples in the space below.

**APPLICATION:** Think through the doctrine of the Sovereignty of God. In what ways can this truth bring your comfort?

In what ways can this truth bring you hope for those you know who are not yet believers?

*Praying the Word:*

*Heavenly Father, it is because of your great mercy that I have been saved! I praise you and give thanks to you that once I was not a part of your people, but now I am called by Your name. Once I was your enemy but now I am a beloved daughter of the living God! Your steadfast love never ceases, Your mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning! Great is Your faithfulness!*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 2: Romans 9:1-29**

### **—NOTES—**

## Week 3: Romans 9:30-10:21

### How Will They Know?

Getting ready to study:

- Each day before you approach your study in God's Word, ask the Holy Spirit to give you a heart receptive to His Word and a willingness to walk in obedience.
- Continue working on memorizing Romans 10:13-15.



*Sharing the good news of salvation  
to the lost is as simple as  
declaring the excellencies of the  
One who called you out of darkness  
and brought you into His marvelous light!  
Cherie Leatherman*

**Read Romans 9 & 10.**

**Focus your attention on Romans 9:30-10:4 and answer the following questions.**

1. What is the meaning of the word "righteousness"? Look up this word in the dictionary and write the meaning in the space below.
2. In the Bible, the word for righteous is the same word that is often translated justice. Both assume that there is a standard by which righteousness/justice can be judged. By whose standard is righteousness judged?
3. Why did Israel as a whole fail in achieving this standard of righteousness?
4. In contrast how were the Gentiles able to attain it?

5. Look up the following passages of Scripture and note what each one says about this stone that causes people to stumble.

Psalms 118:19-24 -

Isaiah 8:13-15 -

Isaiah 28:16 -

Mark 12:1-12 -

1 Peter 2:4-10 -

6. To whom does this stone refer and why is he so often a stumbling block?
7. Turn your attention back to Romans 9:33. While many stumble over this stone, not everyone does. What do these passages tell us about those who don't stumble over this stone? What does this stone become for them?
8. Look up the word "zeal" in the dictionary and write the definition in the space below.

In what ways were the Jews zealous for God without knowledge?

**APPLICATION:** *Let's bring this home to the church today. In what ways can the church be zealous for God without knowledge?*

*Have you experienced this in your life? Have you been zealous for God without knowledge? Write about this time here. What happened to change this?*

9. Read Romans 10:4 in the NIV and the ESV. The NIV uses the word "culminate." Look this word up and write the definition in the space below.

Now rewrite this verse in your own words.

**Focus your attention on verses 5-13. Read through these verses twice.**

10. What is the external sign of righteousness by the law (verse 5)?
11. How is righteousness by faith different than righteousness that comes by the law (verses 6-10)?

12. Paul quotes from Deuteronomy 30:11-14 in these verses. Go back and read this passage.

What is the tie between the heart and the mouth? Matthew 12:34 may help with your answer.

13. What does it mean to believe in your **heart** that God raised Jesus from the dead? Is this a mere intellectual assent to an event or is there more underneath?

What does it mean to confess with your **mouth** that Jesus is Lord? Look up the word “confess” and “Lord” in the dictionary to help with your answer.

14. What would be some of the possible implications that this belief regarding Jesus and then the public confession that He is Lord have in the life of a new believer in the cultural context that Paul is writing in?

\* For the one who was of Jewish descent?

\* For the one who was a Gentile?



**APPLICATION:** How about today? Does conversion to Christianity have implications on the life of one who publicly confesses that Jesus is Lord and then lives according to her confession? What are the possible implications in a marriage? In other family relationships? At work? In society?

*Have you personally experienced opposition because Jesus is your LORD? Why or why not?*

*How are you challenged and changed by the truth that Jesus is not just your Savior but also your Lord?*

**Focus on Romans 10:13-21. Read through these verses slowly and carefully.**

15. Rewrite verses 13-15 in your own words.

What does Paul say the truths of verses 9-13 should lead believers to do? Why?

16. Is hearing the message of the good news of the gospel of the righteousness that comes from God a guarantee of salvation? Give reasons for your answer from the text.

Is Israel's unbelief a result of misunderstanding the message? What is the reason for their unbelief?

**APPLICATION:** *Through God's Word we are being sent to bring the message of salvation to those in our circle of influence. Do you consider this mission a privilege or a burden?*

What keeps you from sharing the message of salvation?

Romans 9 & 10 teach us that we are not ultimately responsible for people's response to the message of salvation. That's the work of God. BUT God has allowed us to be a part of His work in bringing people to repentance by commissioning us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. What practical ways can we overcome our fear of rejection of the message and begin to grow in our ability to share the good news?

*Praying the Word:*

*Heavenly Father, it is my heart's desire and my prayer to You for people to be saved. I ask that you would give me the boldness through your Holy Spirit to declare the good news of salvation by Jesus Christ to those I know and love. Open the eyes of unbelievers that they might see you holding out your hands of mercy to them. In the powerful name of Jesus I ask this. Amen.*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 3: Romans 9:30-10:21**

### **—NOTES—**

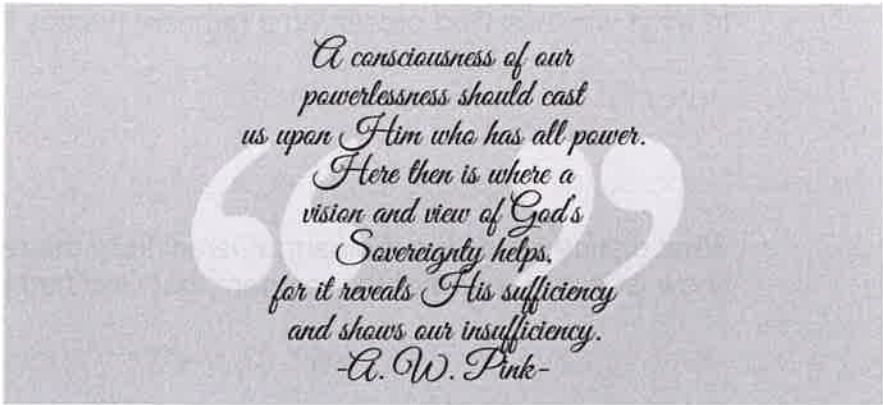


## Week 4: Romans 11:1-24

### The God of Salvation

Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you wondrous things from His Word.
- Bible Memory Work: Review previous memory verses. Write out and begin memorizing Romans 11:33-36.



*A consciousness of our  
powerlessness should cast  
us upon Him who has all power.  
Here then is where a  
vision and view of God's  
Sovereignty helps,  
for it reveals His sufficiency  
and shows our insufficiency.  
-A. W. Pink-*

**Read Romans 9 -11. We will take two weeks to study chapter 11. This week we will focus our attention on Romans 11:1-24. Go back and re-read this section of Scripture.**

**Focus on verses 1-10 and answer the following questions.**

1. What evidence does Paul give that God has not rejected the people of Israel?
2. What evidence does Paul give from Israel's past that God had not rejected His people?
3. What conclusion does Paul then make about the people of Israel in the present time from this evidence?
4. Look up the word "remnant" in the dictionary. Write the definition in the space below.

5. What does Paul mean when He says that God has preserved a remnant of Israel?

In what way has God preserved a remnant (verses 5-6)?

What distinguishes the remnant of Israel from the rest of Israel? How would you know who was a part of the remnant that God had preserved (verses 7-9)?

6. What did the unbelieving Israelites fail to find that they had been seeking? Go back and read Romans 9:31.

What do the eyes of unbelieving Israel not see?

What do their ears not hear?

Why could they not see or hear according to verse 7?



7. Throughout Scripture the inability to see and hear spiritual truths that are right in front of a person is connected to hardness of heart. What causes a hard heart? Look up the following verses and write what they say about hard hearts.

Exodus 8:15 -

Hebrews 3:7-8 -

What do both of these passages reveal about how a person's heart is hardened?

**APPLICATION:** *In what ways do we in the church "harden our hearts" and grow blind to spiritual truths?*

*How about in your personal life? Are you guilty of this?*

*What practical steps can you take today to soften your heart?*

*Praying the Word:*

*Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

*Psalms 139:23-24*

*Just like in Paul's day, not everyone claiming to be a Christian is a true Christian. How can this passage give us hope in the midst of a time when the "Church" or "Christianity" appears to reject the truth of God's Word?*

*What would be evidence that a church or a person is a part of the remnant?*

*Are you a part of the remnant? Why?*

**Focus on verses 11-24.**

8. What do we learn that God is bringing about through the stumbling of the people of Israel?

**APPLICATION:** *How can this truth that God is at work in the midst of failure encourage us as believers who also can "stumble" in our walk of faith?*

*Have you experienced God's work in the midst of your own personal failure? Write about this time below.*

9. In what ways could the Gentiles' acceptance of the gospel stir the Israelites to jealousy to spur some on to also accept the gospel?

**APPLICATION:** *Would someone be able to look at your life and be stirred to jealousy because of all that you have in Christ Jesus? Why or why not?*

10. Paul uses an illustration from Jeremiah 11:16-17 to explain the relationship between the Jews and the Gentiles. Read this passage of Scripture.

Who is the Olive Tree?

Who is the Gardener who is breaking off branches/grafting branches?

Back in Paul's illustration in Romans, who then is the wild olive shoot?

What is the root of the olive tree? Look up Isaiah 11:1,10 to help you with this answer.

11. What does Paul warn the Gentiles about doing in light of their salvation?

Why do you think this warning is necessary?

12. If branches were broken off because of unbelief, what is it that we need to do (verse 20)?

13. What would be the consequence for taking grace for granted (verse 21)?

14. Paul tells us to take note of two characteristics of God in verse 22. What does it mean to “take note of something”? How do we do that?

15. What are the two characteristics we are to take note of?

\*

\*

What do each of these characteristics reveal about the character of God? Look up Titus 3:4-6 and Acts 17:30-31 to help with your answer.

Why is it important that we should take note of these two characteristics that appear to be opposite (verses 20-22)?

16. What should be the outcome of spending time considering the character of God in the attitude of the Gentile believers?

**APPLICATION:** Paul's solution to the sin of pride is seeing God for who He has revealed Himself to be. He is both kind and severe. He is both loving and just. As finite sinful creatures our tendency is always to focus on the attributes of God that make us most comfortable. How have you been guilty of this?

*In what ways does a distorted view of God's kindness lead to sin in our lives?*

*In what ways does a distorted view of God's severity lead to sin in our lives?*

*What practical steps can we take to not live with a distorted view of who God is?*

17. How do we continue in God's kindness? Look up the following passages to help with your answer:

John 15:5, 7, 9-10 -

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 -

Hebrews 3:12-14 -

18. What will happen to either Jew or Gentile if they turn from their unbelief (Romans 11:23)?

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

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## **Week 4: Romans 11:1-24**

### **—NOTES—**



## Week 5: Romans 11:25-36

### The Gospel Leads to Worship

Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes so that you will be able to see and savor the God of your salvation.
- Continue to work on memorizing Romans 11:33-36.

*The ultimate  
goal of theology  
isn't knowledge,  
but worship.  
-Sam Storms-*

Read through Romans 9-11.

Now re-read Romans 11:25-36.

1. What does it mean to be wise in your own eyes? See Isaiah 5:21, Proverbs 3:5-8, and Proverbs 26:12 to help with your answer.

**APPLICATION:** *What does it look like for us to be “wise in our own eyes”? How will this affect our attitudes, expectations of others, and the way we live our lives?*

*What is the antidote to being wise in our own eyes? How would this affect our attitudes, our expectations of others, and the way we live our lives?*

2. What is the mystery that Paul is referring to in these verses? Read Ephesians 3:1-6 to help with your answer.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Write the definition for the word “mystery” that best fits the context in the space below.

In what way has God’s plan regarding salvation been kept a mystery throughout the years? Why do you think this is so?

**APPLICATION:** *Are there aspects to God and His plans that you find mysterious and difficult to understand?*

*How can we find hope and peace and also remain confident in God and His Word in the midst of not being able to fully understand?*

4. How does Paul’s revealing the mystery of God’s plan of salvation keep these believers from being wise in their own eyes?

5. What do you think Paul means by the “full number” of Gentiles?
6. What does Paul say will happen after the full number of Gentiles come in?
7. Do you think “all Israel” means that every single Israelite will be saved or that the full number of Israel who are called will be saved? Support your answer from Scripture.
8. Look up Isaiah 27:9 and 59:20-21 and compare these passages with Romans 11:26-27. In spite of what the current reality is regarding Israel’s rejection of the gospel, Paul confidently proclaims that there will be a day when salvation will once again come to the house of Israel. Where does Paul’s proclamation and confidence in the coming salvation for Israel come from?

***APPLICATION:*** *The Christian life is a walk of faith and not a walk of sight. This means that things are not always as they appear. It means that there are promises that God has made that are yet to be fulfilled. In spite of the way things appear today, what are practical ways that we can grow in our confidence in God’s written Word?*

*How does confidence in God's Word change the way we live and speak to believers that need encouragement? How does it change the way we speak to unbelievers?*

9. How does God view Israel according to verse 28.

In light of this, how then should we view Israel?

**APPLICATION:** *With God's view of Israel, along with the promises of His Word, what should our hope and longing be for the people of Israel?*

10. You looked up the word "elect" on page 111. Rewrite the definition below.

Look up the word "irrevocable" in the dictionary and write the definition below.

11. Re-write Romans 11:28-32 in your own words.

12. Re-read Romans 11:33-36 out loud. Allow the words to stir your heart. As he concludes his summary of God's plan of salvation, what flows out of Paul's pen on the pages of Scripture?

Why is this his response?

13. Write down everything Paul says that is descriptive of God in these verses.

14. Spend some time praying these words back to God before answering the application and wrap up questions.

*Praying the Word:*

*Pray Romans 11:33-36 back to God.*

***APPLICATION:*** *What is your response to God's plan of salvation as revealed through the pages of Scripture?*

*God's sovereignty over salvation is often the cause for theological debate. However, Paul seems to be filled with worship and hope as he teaches us about God's role in salvation. How can this truth about God and His active role in salvation give us peace and hope when people you love are unbelievers?*

*In what ways does God's Sovereignty in salvation challenge you in your prayer life?*

*In what ways does God's Sovereignty in salvation free us to proclaim the gospel boldly?*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

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## **Week 5: Romans 11:25-36**

### **—NOTES—**



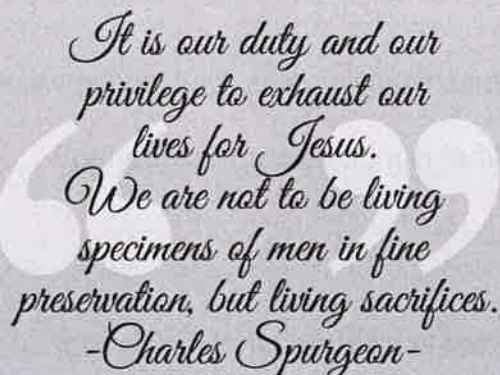


## Week 6: Romans 12:1-8

### Gospel Fruit: Living Worship

Getting ready to study:

- As we transition along with Paul to the implications of the gospel of God, ask the Holy Spirit to convict your heart and change your will through the study of God's Word.
- Begin working on your new memory verse by writing Romans 12:1-2 on a 3x5 card.



*It is our duty and our  
privilege to exhaust our  
lives for Jesus.  
We are not to be living  
specimens of men in fine  
preservation, but living sacrifices.  
-Charles Spurgeon-*

**Read Romans 9-12:1-8.**

1. You will notice a transition as you begin chapter 12. Circle the word in Romans 12:1 that signifies a transition. What word did you circle?

What is the transition that you observe in Romans 11 to Romans 12?

2. By what does Paul make his appeal?

Why is this the foundation of Paul's appeal?

Why is it important that this is the foundation for Paul's appeal?

3. According to Romans 12:1 what is worship? Write everything Paul describes in this verse.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Specifically what is Paul saying we are to offer as a sacrifice to God? \_\_\_\_\_  
  
What is included in this offering?  
  
  
  
  
What is excluded in this offering?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. In Romans 12:1 Paul tells us what acceptable worship is. What is unacceptable worship? Read Isaiah 29:13 to help you with your answer.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why do you think Paul uses the word “living” to describe our offering? What are the implications of offering a living sacrifice to God?

**APPLICATION:** *In our cultural context, what do we usually think of when we think of worship?*

*How does the Romans 12:1 description of worship differ from what we usually think of when we hear the word worship in our contemporary context?*

*How does Romans 12:1 challenge and convict you regarding your worship of God?*

7. Look up the following words in the dictionary and match the definitions with the words.

conform	to change in composition or structure; to change in character or condition
transform	to come to know or recognize; to see or understand the difference
renewal	capable and worthy of being accepted
discern	to be similar or identical; to be in agreement/harmony
acceptable	being entirely without fault or defect
perfect	to make like new; restore to freshness, vigor, or perfection

8. Rewrite Romans 12:2 in your own words.

9. How are we not conformed to the pattern of the world? \_\_\_\_\_

How are we transformed? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is the result of transformation of the mind according to verse 2?

**APPLICATION:** *How is the pursuit of the will of God outside of renewing the mind in Scripture dangerous in the life of the believer?*

*What are some ways in which you are renewing your mind?*

*How have you seen the renewing of your mind bring about transformation in your life?*

11. Who is Paul addressing in verse 3? Is he addressing individuals, a group of individuals or both?

Is he addressing believers or unbelievers?

12. What is the mindset that Paul is calling his readers to?

Why does he call his readers to this mindset?

13. What does it mean to think with sober judgment? Look up “sober” in the dictionary to help with your answer.

Give an example of thinking with sober judgment.

14. By what means does Paul say that we are able to think with sober judgment?

15. Is faith something that we have within ourselves? Where does it come from? Read Ephesians 2:8-9 for added insight on this.

***APPLICATION:*** How does learning what the Bible teaches us about where faith comes from cause you to think with sober judgment and to not think more highly of yourself than you ought?

16. Read Romans 12:4-5. Paul is making a comparison of a body of people to the human body. What is the body of people he is referring to?

17. In what ways is the body of Christ like the human body?

18. Does every member of the human body have a purpose?

What happens to the whole body when one part of the human body is not functioning according to its design and purpose?

Does every member of Christ's body have a purpose?

What happens to the whole body when one member of Christ's body is not functioning according to his or her design and purpose?

19. List below the gifts of grace that Paul mentions in verses 6-9.

Is this list comprehensive or an sampling of possible gifts? Are there other passages of Scripture that talk about gifts that are given to the body? What are they?

20. Who is the distributor of these gifts of grace?

Who are the recipients of these gifts of grace?

Is every member of Christ's body a recipient of a gift of grace or is it just a select few?

21. For what purpose have these gifts been given?

22. Look back at the list of gifts that you wrote out in question 19. Next to each one write a description of what each gift is.

**APPLICATION:** *Prayerfully reflect on your own life and the gifts that have been given to you. Are you using these gifts for the benefit of the body of Christ? Why or why not?*

*What is a consequence of not using your gifts, to you personally and to the church body as a whole?*

What is the benefit of using your gifts, to you personally and to the church body as a whole?

What steps can you take today to begin to faithfully use the gifts of grace that God has given you in your local church?

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

*Praying the Word:*

*Heavenly Father, You are a generous Father. You have lavished such grace on us! In your mercy we have salvation through the shed blood of Jesus. We've been given the faith to believe your Word and receive that salvation, and we have been given gifts to serve one another. Help us, by your Holy Spirit to walk in faithfulness. Help us to selflessly use our gifts to serve your people. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.*



## **Week 6: Romans 12:1-8**

### **—NOTES—**



## Week 7: Romans 12:9-13:14

### Gospel Fruit: Love, Part 1

Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit that you would be rooted and grounded in God's love and would begin to bear fruit of this love in your life.
- Continue memorizing Romans 12:1-2 this week.

*In this is love,  
not that we  
loved God  
but that He loved us  
and sent His Son to be  
the propitiation for  
our sins.  
-1 John 4:9-*

**Read Romans 9-13.**

**Focus your attention on Romans 12:9-21. Re-read these verses.**

In view of God's mercy, Paul is instructing the believers in the Lord Jesus Christ to make their lives a living sacrifice. From now until the end of the chapter, we learn what that looks like.

1. In verses 9-16 Paul instructs Christians on how they ought to conduct themselves with whom?

In verses 17-21 he instructs Christians on how though ought to conduct themselves with whom?

2. Look up the word "genuine" in the dictionary and write the meaning in the space below.
3. In what ways could love NOT be genuine?

4. Look up the word “abhor” in the dictionary. Write a synonym for the word abhor.
  
5. Re-write Romans 12:9 in your own words.

**APPLICATION:** *The world calls what is evil good and what is good evil. Our hearts are deceptive and desperately wicked. Our desires lead us astray and we can easily struggle to understand what genuine love is, what is good and what is evil. How can we, in our cultural context, learn to discern what genuine love is and what qualifies as evil or good in order that we may abhor the one and cling to the other? (Think back to Romans 12:2)*

6. Verse 10 says we are to love one another with a brotherly affection. We could also say that we are to love with a sisterly affection. What does the word brotherly/sisterly add to our understanding of what our relationships are within the church?

What would brotherly/sisterly affection look like practically speaking?

What would it look like to outdo one another in honor?

**APPLICATION:** *Think about your local church. Write a scenario where everyone in your church was loving one another with brotherly/sisterly affection and working to “outdo one another in showing honor.”*

7. Make a list of all the commands Paul gives in verses 9-13.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Out of this list, choose three and give an example how this would be lived out in the local church.

**APPLICATION:** *How does Romans 12:9-13 convict you as you think about your relationships within your local church? How does it encourage you?*

9. Now look at verses 14-21. How are these instructions similar to verses 9-13?

How are they different?

Can you think of another passage of Scripture that gives similar instructions?

***APPLICATION:*** Have you ever faced opposition by someone? How easy or difficult is it to live in the way the Scripture teaches us? Write about your experience here.

*Sometimes when we think of enemies we think of people “out there.” They can be people that live in another part of the world and are far removed from us. But think about when the person who is opposing you is a family member? A spouse? A child? A neighbor? How can you respond in those situations according to the word of God? Spend some time praying and write your thoughts out here.*

**Read through Romans 13:1-7.**

10. Paul has talked about how Christians are to be living sacrifices inside the church, with those who oppose us, and now he addresses what this looks like in our interaction with those in authority over us. What is another word that could be used in place of the word "subject"? \_\_\_\_\_
11. For what reason are we called to be subject to the governing authorities?
12. For what purpose does Paul say the governing authorities have been put in positions of authority?
13. Read Acts 5:27-29. Under what circumstance(s) would we be called to disobey governing authorities?

Give some examples of this biblical principal from Scripture.

Give some examples of this biblical principal from history.

14. What is the difference between taxes and revenue?

taxes -

revenue -

15. What is the difference between respect and honor?

How do we give respect to others and to those in authority?

How do we show honor to others and to those in authority?

***APPLICATION:*** *How does Romans 13:1-7 challenge and convict you regarding your attitude and maybe even your words in regards to our government authorities?*

*How ought this passage change the way we view and talk about our government authorities?*

*How ought this passage change the way we conduct ourselves on social media when it comes to political discourse?*

*How ought this passage change the way we conduct ourselves in regards to our obedience to the laws of the land?*



**Read Romans 13:8-10.**

16. What does Paul say fulfills all the law? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Specifically **how** does “love” fulfill these commands from the Ten Commandments given in Exodus 20:

\*Honor your father and mother -

\*You shall not murder -

\*You shall not commit adultery -

\* You shall not steal -

\*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor -

\*You shall not covet -

18. How might obeying the law of love in these areas cause difficulties and perhaps persecution from others?

**Read Romans 13:11-14.**

19. Circle the word that best describes the sense in which Paul is writing to these believers.

tranquility

urgency

panic

What words does he use to give us this sense?

20. Why does he urge the believers to awaken?

What causes us to fall asleep in our Christian life and become apathetic?

21. Specifically what are the believers to do with this sense of urgency?

In casting off -

In putting on -

*Praying the Word:*

*Heavenly Father, Thank you for Your Holy Scriptures that call us to awaken out of our sleep. We ask that your Spirit would fill us with a sense of urgency in our daily walk and that we would actively cast off all that would hinder us from being faithful and obedient to your word. Empower us to make no provision for the flesh but rather that we would put on the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**APPLICATION:** We now live 2,000 years closer to the day of salvation than when these words were first penned and if anything, the sense of urgency for us to awaken has only increased! Do you hear the voice of your Heavenly Father calling you to awaken out of your sleep through the pages of Scripture? What is your response? Will you pull the covers over your head and roll over and fall back to sleep OR will you jump at the voice of the Father?

*What in your life needs to be cast off?*

*What do you need to put on?*

*How are you going to begin today to live with urgency?*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

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## **Week 7: Romans 12:9-13:14**

### **—NOTES—**



## Week 8: Romans 14

### Gospel Fruit: Love, Part 2

#### Getting ready to study:

- Continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will open your eyes and help you to understand the unfathomable love of God for you and that this love will overflow out of you into the lives of those around you.
- Review your memory verses.
- Write Romans 15:4-6 on a 3x5 card and begin memorizing.



*Love is...  
patient and kind,  
does not envy or boast,  
is not arrogant or rude,  
does not insist on its own way,  
is not irritable or resentful.  
Love...  
does not rejoice in wrong doing  
but instead rejoices with truth.  
1 Corinthians 13:4-6*

#### Read Romans 9-14.

#### Focus your attention on Romans 14:1-12.

1. What scenario is Paul addressing in these verses?

What two examples in verses 1-12 from this cultural context does Paul give of the difference of opinions?

2. Are the issues that Paul is addressing in this passage sin issues?

How do we discern if an issue is a sin issue versus an opinion issue?

3. Who is the “weaker” brother in this context? Who are the “stronger” brothers?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What tends to be the attitude that these brothers/sisters have toward one another regarding these differing opinions (verse 4)?

What does this attitude reveal about one’s heart?

5. In dealing with matters of differing opinions, what does Paul remind these brothers and sisters of (verses 4-5)?

**APPLICATION:** What are some “disputable” opinions that can cause division in the church today?

*How should we conduct ourselves in these conversations?*

*How can we personally discern whether an issue is an opinion or a sin issue?*



6. Focus your attention on Romans 14:5-12. Circle every time the text uses the word "Lord" in reference to God. How many times is "Lord" mentioned? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Look up the word "Lord" in the dictionary and summarize the main point of these verses.
8. What does verse 9 say is a reason for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ?

What does that imply then for those who come to faith in Jesus through the death and resurrection of Jesus?

9. According to Romans 14:5-9, what part of a Christian's life is not under the Lordship of Jesus Christ?

What part of the Christian life IS under the Lordship of Jesus Christ?

**APPLICATION:** *In contemporary Christianity, it is a popular belief that you can just say a prayer and “believe” in Jesus but not submit to His Lordship. You can have Jesus as your Savior without necessarily having Him as your Lord. Is this teaching biblical truth or is it false teaching? Cite other Scripture that supports your belief.*

*Are there areas of your life that you have not submitted under the Lordship of Jesus Christ? Spend some time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to expose areas of your life that need to be submitted under His authority. What steps will you take today to begin to walk in obedience to the Spirit’s direction? Share with a trusted friend and ask them to hold you accountable in this area of your life.*

10. Focus your attention on Romans 14:13-23. Read through these verses. What are we to stop doing as believers? \_\_\_\_\_
  
11. Is all judging wrong? John 7:24 and 1 Corinthians 5:9-12 will help with your answer.

What is the difference between the judging happening in Romans 14 and the judging referred to in these other passages of Scripture?

12. In this passage what standard are these believers judging the others believers by?

13. In what ways does this kind of judging harm others?

**APPLICATION:** *In light of what we learned in verses 1-12 and now continuing into the rest of the chapter, why is it important for us to correctly define what it means to judge?*

*How does the world misunderstand the biblical meaning of the term? How does the church often misunderstand the meaning of the term?*

14. What decision does Paul say believers should make?

Why should a believer make an intentional decision to live in this way?

15. What example of a “stumbling block” is Paul referring to in this passage?

Is there anything unbiblical and sinful about this example of a stumbling block?

How do you know?

16. In what way would being a stumbling block affect another believer? Why does this matter?

Look up Leviticus 19:14. How does this verse about a physical reality help give you insight into what Paul is teaching in these verses about a spiritual reality?

17. Paul recognizes that there are times that a believer's conscience will not allow her to do something even if Scripture does not specifically condemn that behavior. Why would it be wrong for this person to go against her conscience?

18. What is the motive for a believer living in a way that will not cause others to stumble (verse 15)?

19. What do we learn from these verses about what the priority should be for the strong believer (verses 16-19)?

20. What is the kingdom of God NOT about?

★

★

What does Paul mean?

21. What then does Paul say the kingdom is a matter of?

\*

\*

\*

What does this mean?

22. What are the believers called to pursue? \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION:** *In your church context, how can you live in such a way to actively pursue unity and the building up of the church as a whole?*

23. When we prioritize the wrong things, what are we in danger of doing according to verse 20?

**APPLICATION:** *Can you think of specific ways today that, when we prioritize and focus on the wrong things, we can destroy a “work of God?” Share a scenario from either personal experience or one that is a possibility.*

24. What role does a person’s faith have in Christian liberty according to verses 22-23?

**APPLICATION:** How does Romans 14 expand your understanding of what Paul teaches about being a living sacrifice in Romans 12:1?

*In light of Romans 12-14, what is involved in being a living sacrifice within the context of a church community?*

*How are you doing with this? Is there something that you need to change in order to pursue peace and build up the body?*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 8: Romans 14**

### **—NOTES—**



## Week 9: Romans 15:1-13

### Gospel Motivation

Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes that you might see Jesus as your study this week.
- Continue working on your Bible Memory passage this week: Romans 15:4-6. Practice with a friend.

*Looking to Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of  
our faith...  
Hebrews 12:2*

**Read Romans 9-15:1-13.**

**Now focus your attention on Romans 15:1-7. Re-read these verses out loud.**

1. Look up the word "obligation" in the dictionary. Write the definition in the space below.

Is living this way optional for the true believer? Why or why not?

To whom are we obligated?

2. We are under obligation to do what specifically (verses 1-2)?

\*

\*

Whose desires need to take the backseat in order to fulfill our obligation? \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION:** What is the difference between being a people pleaser and being a person who lays down her preferences in deference to another person?

Let's take a moment for a little honest reflection. What principle typically guides our decisions in life...our preferences or another's preferences? Why is this so?

How would living in obedience to Romans 15:1-2 affect....

-Your finances?

-Your family?

-Your neighborhood?

-Your workplace?

-Your church community?

What keeps us from living in this way?

3. What is the first word in verse 3? \_\_\_\_\_

What does this word signify?

Why is it important for us to understand this?

4. In verses 3-6 we are given some motives for living in a selfless way. Who/What does Paul tell us is the first motive to live in this way? \_\_\_\_\_

In what way does this provide a motive for living selflessly?

How does this work, practically speaking, to motivate us?

5. Paul provides a second motive for living selflessly. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

How does this motivate and help us in living selfless lives?

6. Paul provides a third motive. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

How does this motivate and help us in living selflessly?

7. With these three motives empowering all within the church community to live selflessly, what then is the fruit (verses 5-6)?

\*

\*

8. In light of these things, what are we then told to do in verse 7?

How does this bring glory to God?

**Focus your attention on Romans 15:8-13. Read through these verses aloud.**

9. For whom did Christ Jesus become a servant? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Romans 15:8 in the NIV. For whom does the NIV say Christ Jesus became a servant? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What reasons does Paul give for Him doing this?

\*

\*

\*

11. How does Jesus show God's truthfulness in confirming the promises given to the patriarchs? Look up Acts 3:24-26 to help you with your answer.

12. Paul strings together Old Testament Scriptures in verses 10-12. Look up the following verses and write out the verse (or part of the verse) that he quotes in the space provided.

2 Samuel 22:50 -

Psalm 18:49 -

Deuteronomy 32:43 -

Psalm 117:1 -

Isaiah 11:10 -

13. Summarize the point Paul is making to this congregation in Rome through these passages of Scripture.

14. Who is the hope of the Jews?

Who is the hope of the Gentiles?

**APPLICATION:** Bring this home to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We no longer are struggling with the debate between Jew and Gentile. Where do you see the struggle for unity in our context today?

*How does putting our hope in the God of the Scriptures bring about unity?*

*Praying the Word:*

*Triune God - Father, Son and Spirit - You and you alone are our only hope. Fill us with all joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may dwell together in unity in accord with Christ Jesus, that we may abound in hope, and with one voice glorify God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

## **Week 9: Romans 15:1-13**

### **—NOTES—**



Getting ready to study:

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you study our passage this week.
- Review your memory work.
- Copy Romans 16:25-27 onto a 3x5 card and begin working on memorizing these verses.

## **Week 10: Romans 15:14-16:16**

### **Gospel Community on Mission**



**Read Romans 9-16.**

**Paul is beginning to wrap up his letter to the Romans. Read through Romans 15:14-21 in both the ESV and the NIV translations.**

1. What reason does Paul give for his letter to the Romans (verses 14-16)?
2. What is Paul's description of himself in verses 15-16?

How did he describe himself in Romans 1:1?

How are these identities connected?

3. Who gave Paul his identity?

What does this tell us about God?

4. What Old Testament picture does Paul use to describe his role to the Gentiles?

How does this picture accurately describe his work?

5. What is Paul's sole message (verses 18-21)?

What is Paul's sole mission?

What is Paul's sole ambition?

By whose power is Paul working?

6. Look up 1 Peter 2:9. How does this passage describe the identity of believers?

How are believers to be like Paul in both our identity, ambition, and mission?

By whose power do believers operate in their identity, ambition, and mission?

**APPLICATION:** *How does this passage challenge you when you think about your view of your identity, ambition, and mission?*

*How would rooting your identity, ambition, and mission in being a missionary sent out by God change how you manage your schedule?*

*The way you spend your time?*

*How you spend your money?*

*How you interact with the people you come into contact with?*

**Focus on Romans 15:22-33. Read through these verses in both the ESV and the NIV versions of the Bible.**

7. Why has Paul been hindered in coming to Rome?
8. Where is Paul planning to head next in his missionary journey?

Why is he planning on going there?

9. Before he heads to the end of the known world, where do Paul's immediate plans take him (verses 24-29)?

What is his purpose in heading there?

What does Paul's immediate plans reveal about the first century church?

10. What does Paul's immediate plans and his future plans reveal about the nature of his work?

-To the Gentiles

-To the churches

11. How does Paul ask the Christians in Rome to join him in his struggle?

In what specific ways does he request help?

***APPLICATION:*** How do these verses challenge your understanding of mission work being solely "around the world" and not close by?

*How do these verses challenge your understanding of mission work as an event that you schedule versus a way of living?*

**Focus on Romans 16:1-16. Read through these verses and fill in the chart below.**

<b>Bible Verse</b>	<b>Name of Person (or household)</b>	<b>Description of Person (or household)</b>
1	Phoebe	Sister, servant of the church, patron

12. Specifically how many names did Paul mention?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
13. What are some observations that you can make about the people that were a part of this first century church (race, gender, socio/economic status)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
14. What do you observe about the relationships within the church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
15. What do you observe about what kind of ministry the people were doing?

**APPLICATION:** *How relationally connected are you to your local church community?*

*Are you currently using your gifts to serve and love your local church community? What has kept you from serving?*

*In what ways can you use your gifts to serve in the local church?*

*Is your life, your ministry, your worship centered on the gospel of Jesus Christ or is it centered on works?*

WRAP UP:

In your study this week, what have you learned about God?

Knowing that God is \_\_\_\_\_ shows me that I  
am \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

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## **Week 10: Romans 15:14-16:16**

### **—NOTES—**

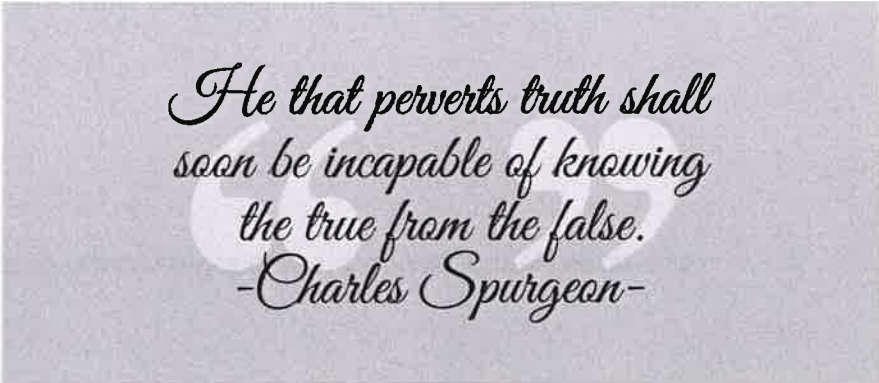


Getting ready to study:

- As you begin to study this last section of Romans, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to stir in your heart a vigilance to walk in the truth and protection from being deceived by false teaching.
- Review your memorization work for the year.
- Continue to work on memorizing Romans 16:25-27.

## Week 11: Romans 16:17-27

### Final Words



*He that perverts truth shall  
soon be incapable of knowing  
the true from the false.  
-Charles Spurgeon-*

**Read or listen through the entire book of Romans this week.**

**Focus your attention on Romans 16:17-27. Read these verses two times through in both the ESV and the NIV.**

1. Look up the word “appeal” in the dictionary. Write the definition below.

What word does the NIV use? Write the definition below.

2. If you could see and hear Paul as he is finishing up these last few words in his letter, what would his body language and his voice tell you about the urgency of what he is saying?

Based on his urgency, what ought our response be to what he is about to say?

3. What does he warn the Roman church to do?

Why does he feel a sense of urgency to warn them?

4. How does Paul describe these people worthy of warning in verses 17-18?

Will these people be easy to spot? Why or why not?

5. What are the Roman Christians supposed to do if a person that fits this description comes into their community?

6. Look up the word “deceive” in the dictionary. Write the definition below.

In what ways do these false teachers deceive others.

7. Who are those who are vulnerable to being deceived?

Look up the meaning of that word and write the definition below.

8. What way does Paul call these Roman believers to be in verse 19?

How would this be accomplished?

9. What is the hope of believers as they stand vigilantly on guard against deception (verse 20)?

***APPLICATION:*** *False teachers are as much a threat today as they were when Paul wrote these words, so he also calls us to vigilance in the church today. In what ways can you personally guard your own life against being deceived?*

*What does it look like to “avoid” or to “stay away” from false teachers?*

10. Paul concludes his letter with greetings from those he is serving with. List each name below and what Paul says about each one.

**Focus your attention on Romans 16:25-27.**

11. Paul concludes his letter with the gospel with which he opened his letter. What does Paul say about the gospel in his conclusion?
12. From whom did Paul receive the gospel?
13. To whom is the gospel going?
14. What is the purpose of the gospel?
15. Who is glorified in the gospel?

Summary of Romans Study:

16. Write a summary of the gospel.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
17. What section of Romans is your favorite?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
18. What part(s) of Romans do you understand better now than when you started this study?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
19. How has your knowledge of God grown through this study?

How has this deepened your love for Him?

20. In what ways has Romans convicted you?

21. In what ways has Romans encouraged you?

*Praying the Word:*

*Now to Him who is able to keep  
you from stumbling and to present  
you blameless before the presence  
of His glory 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.  
(Jude 24-25)*

## **Week 11: Romans 16:17-27**

### **—NOTES—**







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