

STUDY

Romans Bible Study Guide (Free PDF, 11 Sessions)

Walk through Paul's letter to Rome one movement at a time, from the gospel to the transformed life.

An 11-session study of Romans for groups or solo reading, covering the whole letter in order.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith.

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:23-24 (NIV)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1 (NIV)

The study guide

SESSION 1 • ROMANS 1:1-17

The Gospel Announced

Paul introduces himself and the message he is not ashamed of. The gospel is God's power for salvation, and in it the righteousness of God is revealed to everyone who believes.

1. How does Paul describe the gospel in Romans 1:16-17, and what words does he use to say where its power comes from?

2. Why might Paul say he is 'not ashamed' of the gospel, and what does that suggest about the pressure the Roman believers were under?

3. Where in your own life do you find it hardest to live unashamed of the gospel, and what would change if you trusted it as God's power there?

SESSION 2 • ROMANS 1:18-3:20

The Whole World Accountable

Paul shows that no one is exempt, neither the religious nor the irreligious. Every mouth is silenced and the whole world is held accountable to God.

1. What does Paul say about both the Gentile and the Jewish reader in this section, and how does he level the ground between them?

2. Why does Paul spend so long establishing universal guilt before he gets to the good news?

3. What does it do to your heart to be told plainly that you cannot make yourself right with God by your own effort?

SESSION 3 · ROMANS 3:21-4:25

Justified by Faith

Righteousness comes apart from the law, through faith in Jesus, as a gift. Paul points back to Abraham, who was counted righteous because he believed God.

1. How does Paul use the example of Abraham in chapter 4 to explain what faith is?

2. What is the difference between a righteousness earned by works and one received as a gift, and why does that difference matter?

3. What would it look like for you to stop earning and start receiving God's acceptance this week?

SESSION 4 · ROMANS 5:1-11

Peace With God

Having been justified through faith, we have peace with God. Paul anchors that peace not in our feelings but in what Christ did while we were still sinners.

1. What specific gifts does Paul say flow from being justified by faith in Romans 5:1-11?

2. How does Romans 5:8 ground our assurance in God's action rather than our worthiness?

3. When your feelings tell you God could not love you today, how could the truth of Romans 5:8 steady you?

SESSION 5 · ROMANS 5:12-6:23

Grace Greater Than Sin

Where sin increased, grace increased all the more. Paul moves from how grace reigns to how the believer, no longer a slave to sin, now lives under a new master.

1. How does Paul describe the believer's relationship to sin after coming to Christ in chapter 6?

2. Why does Paul reject the idea that grace gives us license to keep sinning?

3. What is one area where you have settled for old habits, and what would living as 'alive to God' look like there?

SESSION 6 · ROMANS 7:1-8:17

The Spirit and the Struggle

Paul names the honest war between wanting to do good and failing to do it, then turns to the Spirit who frees and empowers those who are in Christ Jesus.

1. How does Paul describe the inner conflict in Romans 7, and how does Romans 8:1 answer it?

2. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the life of the believer according to Romans 8:1-17?

3. Where do you feel the struggle Paul names in Romans 7, and how does 'no condemnation' meet you in it?

SESSION 7 · ROMANS 8:18-39**Nothing Can Separate Us**

Present suffering is set against future glory. Paul builds to one of the strongest assurances in all of Scripture, that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ.

1. What does Paul list as things that cannot separate us from God's love at the end of chapter 8?

2. How does Paul hold together honest suffering and unbreakable hope in this passage?

3. What fear have you been carrying that this passage speaks directly to, and how does it answer it?

SESSION 8 · ROMANS 9:1-11:36**God's Faithfulness to Israel**

Paul wrestles with the place of Israel in God's plan. His grief is real, but so is his confidence that God's saving purpose is faithful, merciful, and sovereign from beginning to end.

1. How does Paul describe both his sorrow over Israel and his trust in God's plan across these chapters?

2. What does this section teach about how God's mercy and sovereignty work together?

3. When God's ways are hard to understand, how can Paul's response in Romans 11 shape your own?

SESSION 9 · ROMANS 12:1-13:14**A Living Sacrifice**

The doctrine turns to daily life. In view of God's mercy, Paul calls believers to offer themselves as living sacrifices, transformed in mind and tender in love toward one another.

1. According to Romans 12:1-2, what does Paul ask us to do in response to God's mercy?

2. Why does Paul connect being 'transformed by the renewing of your mind' to discerning God's will?

3. What is one pattern of this world you sense God asking you to stop conforming to?

SESSION 10 · ROMANS 14:1-15:13**Welcome One Another**

Paul addresses the strong and the weak in the Roman church, calling them to stop judging one another over disputable matters and to pursue peace and mutual building up.

1. What guidance does Paul give for handling disagreements over disputable matters in chapter 14?

2. How does Paul define real love and unity between believers who see things differently?

3. Who is a fellow believer you find hard to welcome, and what would 'accept one another' look like with them?

SESSION 11 · ROMANS 15:14-16:27**Mission and Final Praise**

Paul shares his travel plans, names a long list of co-workers, and closes the letter with praise to God. The doctrine has become a community of real people on mission together.

1. What do Paul's plans and his long list of greetings reveal about how the gospel builds community?

2. Why might Paul end such a weighty letter with a doxology of praise?

3. Who are the partners God has given you in faith, and how could you thank or encourage one of them this week?
