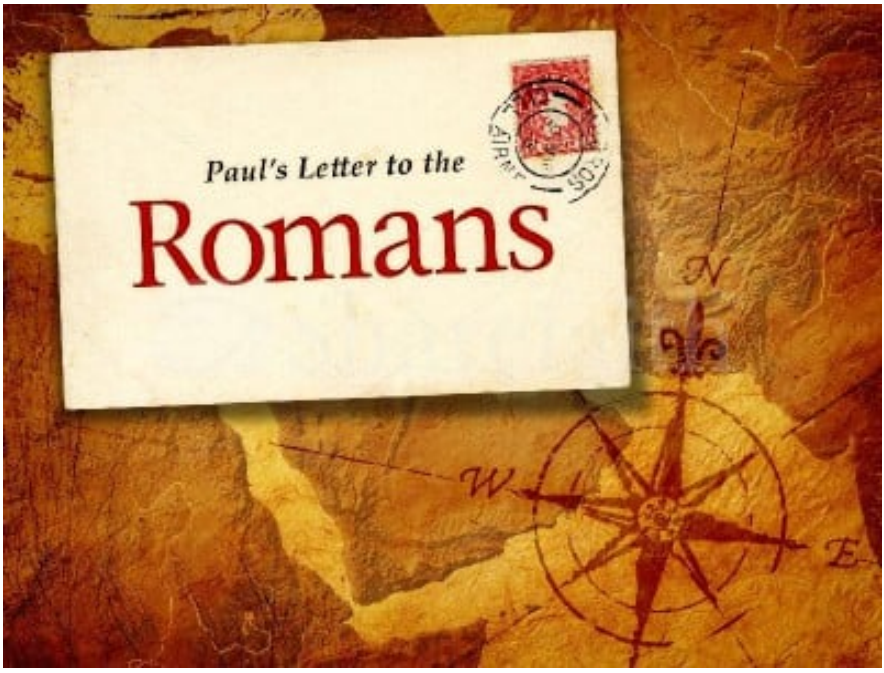
# An Inductive Bible Study of the Book of Romans




*"Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*
2 Timothy 2:15

**A practical study of the book of Romans**

**by Pastor Richard W. LaFountain**

# How To Study

**Read the Scripture:**
Reading the Scripture is important. Read every word. Don't skip. Don't just read your favorite verses. Read it all. Think about what you are reading. Is there any word or statement you do not understand? Is there anything that confuses you or seems inconsistent with other Scriptures? Is there anything you would like to research? Use at least two translations.

**Translations:**
I suggest New King James, if you like the old wording. The New International Version is helpful. And the English Standard Version is also refreshing. For this study I am using the NKJV because I grew up with KJV and its rhythms are familiar to me. You can use other translations.

**Chapter by Chapter:**
We are going to study the Book of Romans chapter by chapter. Some chapters are longer and have much to think about. Those chapters we have divided into segments so you cover Romans 8 in four weeks instead of one week. We assume you will use one chapter each week. If you are using this for daily readings then you might find it too difficult to answer the questions. That's okay. My hope, however, is that you use is in a weekly Bible study. Anyone can lead it.

**Highlighted Verses:**
I have chosen to highlight what I feel are key verses. You may think others are more important. That is okay. Write that in your personal journal or if you are studying in a group write down other verses you feel are important. Oh, and every chapter has one key verse.

**Discussion Questions:**
We have not attempted to add commentary because we believe the Scriptures speak for themselves and the Holy

Spirit can teach us as much as another person's commentary. I have added suggested questions to answer and discuss. This is especially helpful when studying with a group. You are not limited to my questions, ask your own. In a self-directed study it will be harder to consider your answers to the questions. In a group, however, one question might stimulate other questions. You do not have to answer every question. Use what is helpful and useful and leave the rest.

**Personal Edification:**
I have often taught my students to look for certain things in ever chapter of the Bible. You will not find all five in every chapter, but you should be able to find two or three. Write them down in a journal or share it with a group. It is called the PEPSI acronym.

**Search for Treasure: (P.E.P.S.I.)**

- A **P**-romise to claim.
- An **E**-xample to follow.
- A **P**-rayer concern.
- A **S**-in to avoid.
- An **I**-nstruction to obey.

**Personal Questions:**

- What Verse Challenged you?
- What Verse Encouraged you?
- What Verse Convicted you?
- What Verse Confused you?
- What Verse Startled you?
- What Verse Frightened you?

**Group Questions:**

1. What verse stands out to you in this chapter? Why?
2. What verse causes you to struggle with its demand? Why?
3. What verse encourages your faith the most? Why?
4. Is there a command here you find most difficult to obey? Why?
5. Is there a promise here you want to claim? What?
6. Is there something you need to pray about in this passage? Why?
7. Is there a word / topic here you need to explore more deeply? What?

# Romans 1:1-17 – Part 1
# *The Gospel*

## Key verses to think about.

Chapter 1 is full of truths to discuss. You might want to park here a day or two, or maybe three. I divide it in two parts.

**1:11-12 Sharing Spiritual Gifts**
For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

**1:16 Not Ashamed**
For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

**1:17 Living by Faith**
For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, *"The just shall live by faith."*

## Main Truth:

We should not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ because it is the power of God to save anyone, whether Jew or Gentile.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Are you ashamed of the gospel of Christ? If you are, what does that look like?

2 What does it mean to your daily life to say, “The just shall live by faith”? How do you live by faith each day?

3 What is the opposite of “living by faith”? Is it living by doubts, fears, anxieties, insecurities, and disappointments?

4 If you were to share a spiritual gift to encourage others, what would it be? What are your spiritual gifts?

## Private Notes:

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# Romans 1:18-32 – Part 2
# *God's Wrath*

## Key verses to think about.

**1:18-19 The Wrath of God**
For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.

**1:20 God Revealed in Nature**
For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

**1:26-27 Homosexuality Exposed**
For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

## Main Truth:

The wrath of God is real against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Can you preach the gospel without mentioning the wrath of God?

2 Do you believe men without Christ are eternally damned? Are you uncomfortable using the word “damned,” “lost,” or “Hell”?

3 Atheism and agnosticism are without excuse. How do you reason with an atheist? What’s your main argument? (See Psalm 19:1-6)

4 Homosexual lifestyles are condemned by God. (Lev. 18:22). Our culture today wants us to accept this as normal lifestyle and to punish people who speak out against it. How can we speak out against it without hatred?

5 When is the last time you heard a message on hell, the lostness of man, or on Romans 1:18-32? Have you ever heard one in your church?

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# Romans 2 - *Hypocrisy*

## Key verses to think about.

**2:1-3 Against Hypocrisy**
Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?

**2:11 All of Us Will Be Judged**
For there is no partiality with God.

**2:16 God Will Judge Secrets**
in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

**2:28-29 True Child of God**
For he is not a Jew who *is one* outwardly, nor *is* circumcision that which *is* outward in the flesh; but *he is* a Jew who *is one* inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise *is* not from men but from God.

## Main Truth:

Everyman will be judged according to his deeds and according to God's truth.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Everyone has secret sins. What is your secret sin? (or sins?) Be honest. Answer this in the privacy of your own heart.

2 The Bible says, “Judge not that you be not judged.” (Matthew 7:1) in anoth place it say, “Judge righteous judgement.” (John 7:24) are those contradictory commands? Explain.

3 First Corinthians 6:2-3 says, “Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world ... Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life?” What does that mean?

4 Does all this mean we are not to condemn immoral behavior? Is condemning immorality the same as judging another?

5 Jesus said concerning the woman caught in adultery. “He that is without sin among you, cast the first stone.” Does that mean we should not condemn homosexuality or sexual immorality? What does it mean?

## Private Notes:

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# Romans 3 – All Have Sinned

## Key verses to think about.

**3:5-6 God is Just**
*Is* God unjust who inflicts wrath? Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?

**3:10-11 No One is Righteous**
There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.

**3:19-20 The Purpose of Laws**
We know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

**3:23-24 Everyone is a Sinner**
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (therefore) being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

**3:28 Justified by Faith Alone**
Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

## Main Truth:

Everyone is a sinner and has fallen short of God's standards of behavior.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Who is the most righteous person you know? Why do you think of them as righteous?

2 Do you view yourself as righteous? What makes you think you are or are not righteous before God?

3 Who is the worst sinner you personally know? (Don't share this in a group, just think about it.) Fact: you are that person! (See Jeremiah 17:9)

4 Do you ever feel right before God? Do you ever feel guilty and unclean? Why, or Why not?

## Commentary:

Justification is being made righteous by being clothed with the righteousness of Christ. He alone declares us righteous. (See Psalm 32:1-2. In Christ you are that man!

"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name."

"When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found: Clothed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne."

## Private Notes:

# Romans 4 – Abraham's Faith

## Key verses to think about.

**4:2 No More Boasting!**
For if Abraham was justified by works, he has *something* to boast about, but not before God.

**4:5 Only Believe!**
But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

**4:9 & 22 Abraham's Credit**
For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. 22 And therefore *"it was accounted (credited) to him for righteousness.*

**4:16 Abraham's Children by Faith**
Therefore *it is* of faith that *it might be* according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.

**19-21 Abraham's Unshakable Faith**
(Abraham) not being weak in faith…He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

## Main Truth:

Abraham believed God, and that made him righteous.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Is your faith in God's accounting unshakable?

2 Whose bank account are you trusting in? Yours? or Christ's?

3 If you were to stand before God and he would say to you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What would you say?

4 Who are you leaning on for salvation? Your works or Christ's work?

## Private Notes:

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# Romans 5 – Peace With God

## Key verses to think about.

**5:1-2 Peace with God**
Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**5:2 We Have Access to Grace**
Through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

**5:5 The Love of God**
Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

**5:6 Jesus Died for the Ungodly**
For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

**5:8 God's Love Demonstrated**
But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**5:9 Saved from God's Wrath**
Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

**5:15-16 The Free Gift**
For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.Even so through one Man's righteous act *the free gift came* to all men, resulting in justification of life.

## Main Truth:

The grace is God's undeserved favor because of Christ.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Do you have peace with God? Are you sure of your salvation?

2 Do you have the peace of God? When you go to bed at night are you at peace with God, or are you afraid to die and stand before God?

3 Do you really believe God loves you unreservedly? Or do you feel He might not love you as much as he loves Jesus?

4 Do you joyfully accept God's free gift, or do you secretly feel like you need to earn it to be worthy of it?

5 "Feelings" reveal our secret innermost beliefs. Do you "feel" God loves you unconditionally? Or is there a "feeling" that He shouldn't love you?

## Private Notes:

# Romans 6 – The Old Nature

## Key verses to think about.

**6:1-2 We Died to Sin**
What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

**6:6 The Old Man Died**
Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him,* that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

**6:11 Dead Reckoning**
Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**6:12-13 Sin's Reign**
Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.

**6:14 Sin's Dominion**
For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

**6:16 Slaves Obey Their Master**
Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness?

**6:23 Sin's Wages**

For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Main Truth:

The Christian's struggle with sin and the old nature is a lifelong battle. When we yield to sin we lose the battle and surrender to Satan. When we yield to God we win and Christ reigns in our hearts.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Do you struggle with sin? What sin defeats you most often? Be honest with yourself.

2 What temptation gets the best of you most often? Again, answer this in the secret of your heart.

3 Is it possible to live a life without sinning? Is it possible to be so surrendered to God that sin no longer bothers you?

4 Do you know anyone who is sinless? Who? Why do you think they are sinless?

## Commentary:

Yielding to sin, or to Christ, is a daily matter. Actually, it's a moment by moment matter.

1 John 1:8-10 addresses the issue of pretending that we don't sin. We are not called to pretend we don't sin, but to confront and confess our sins.

*"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all*

*unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us."*

## Private Notes:

# Romans 7 – Oh Wretched Man!

## Key verses to think about.

**7:7 The Law Reveals Our Sinfulness**
What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, *"You shall not covet."*

**7:13 Sin Appears Exceedingly Sinful**
But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

**7:14 I Am Carnal**
For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.

**7:15-17 Our Great Frustration**
For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that *it is good*. But now, *it is* no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

**7:18 There Is Nothing Good In Me**
For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but *how to* perform what is good I do not find.

**7:24 I Am a Wretched Man**
O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

## Main Truth:

The whole purpose of the law is to show us our sinfulness, not to make us sinless.

## Discussion Questions:

1 What law of God is for you the hardest to obey? Why is that so hard?

2 Of the Ten Commandments which do you break most often? Do you break any? Which is the hardest to obey?

3 If you hate your sin why do you keep on sinning? Curious, isn't it?

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# Romans 8:1-10 - Part 1
# *No Condemnation*

Chapter 8 is the richest chapter in Romans therefore we will take it in 4 parts.

## Key verses to think about.

**8:1 No Condemnation**
*There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

**8:3-4 Requirements Fulfilled**
For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

**8:6-8 The Carnal Mind**
For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

**8:9 God's Spirit Lives in you**
But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

## Main Truth:

When you receive Christ you received his Holy Spirit. Jesus lives and abides in you.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Do you ever feel condemned or guilty even though you've confessed your sins?

2 Where do you think that accusation of condemnation comes from? (Read Zechariah 3:1-5, John 3:18, 1 John 3:20, Revelation 12:10) Now where does that feeling of condemnation come from?

3 When we feel condemned it's not God, he convicts, but does not condemn us. How then can we assure our hearts before God? (1 John 1:8-10 God is faithful and just to forgive us.) It's time to stand up to the devil and read Romans 8:1 out loud. Declare it!

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# Romans 8:10-17 - Part 2
# *The Spirit in You*

## Key verses to think about.

8:13 The Flesh and Spirit War
For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

**8:14 Led by the Spirit**
For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

**8:15 The Spirit of Prayer**
For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

**8:16-17 The Spirit Tells Us**
The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him,* that we may also be glorified together.

**8:26-27 The Spirit Prays in Us**
Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is,* because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God.

## Main Truth:

The Holy Spirit in dwells the believer. Every believer. But not every believer walks in the spirit.

## Discussion Questions:

1 What does it mean to live after the flesh? Be precise. What does it mean to be in the flesh and not in the Spirit?

2 Do you live in the Spirit? Do you mind the things of the Spirit, or do you mostly mind the things of the flesh?

3 Are you sure the Holy Spirit dwells in you? How can you be sure of that?

4 What does the Holy Spirit do inside you? Name at least three things. Is there a fourth?

5 How can you know you are being “led” by the Spirit of God? Simple question. If you’re led by the Spirit how do you know it’s the Spirit and not your own opinion?

6 Is there a difference between what you think and what the Spirit thinks? Try Proverbs 3:5-6. Now answer that question.

## Private Notes:

# Romans 8:18-27 - Part 3
# *Groanings Within*

## Key verses to think about.

**8:18-19 Our Future Glory**
For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

**8:20-22 Creation Groans**
For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

**8:23 We Groan in this Body**
Not only *that,* but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

**Main Truth:**

The world is dying, from Adam to now. Creation groans, and we groan for the trouble our sinful fallen natures cause us. We live for the future, not for the present.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Do you ever feel frustrated with your own sinfulness? What frustrates you the most?

2 What do you see as nature groaning today?

3 Do you think much about heaven, or are you mostly earthbound? Why don't you think more about our future glory?

4 Is it possible to be so heavenly minded that you're no earthly good? Is that even possible?

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# Romans 8:28-39 – Part 4
# *God at Work in You*

## Key verses to think about.

**8:28 God is at Work in Us**
And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

**8:29-30 We Are Predestined!**
For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

**8:31-32 Who Can Be Against Us?**
What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

**8:33-34 Who Accuses You?**
Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

**8:35 What Can Separate Us?**
Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**37-39 More Than Conquerors!**

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, or height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Main Truth:

God is for us and not against us. If God is for us, (and he is) nothing else matters.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Do you like Romans 8:28? Why? What does it mean in practical terms?

2 Are you predestined? Are you sure? How can you be sure? Is there any chance you are NOT predestined, foreknown, called, and chosen of God?

3 Who accuses you of not being chosen or predestined? Someone does. There's a little voice that occasionally whispers you're not chosen.

4 How we can be more-than conquerors? Isn't being conquerors enough? Explain "more-than conquerors."

## Private Notes:

# Romans 9 - God's Election

## Key verses to think about.

9:11 (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls)

9:14 -16 What shall we say then? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! For He says to Moses, *"I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."* So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.

9:18 Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

9:21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

9:22-23 *What* if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,

9:30-31 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness.

9:33 As it is written: *"Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, and whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."*

## Main Truth:

We have not chosen Him but he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world. (Ephesians 1:4)

## Discussion Questions:

1 Why do you think God chose you, and not other people?

2 Did God chose you because he saw something good in you? If so, how do you explain…Romans 3:10-12, Romans 3:23, Romans 3:19, Psalm 14:2-3, Psalm 53:1-3 and Jeremiah 17:9 (see below)

3 Do you think God chose you because in his foreknowledge he saw you would have faith and trust in Christ? If so, how do you explain…

- “Faith is a gift of God not of works lest any man could boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9
- “No man can come to me except the Father draw him.” John 6:44
- “Not by works of righteousness which we have done he saved us” Titus 3:5
- “As many as were ordained/appointed to eternal life believed" Acts 13:48

4 Do believe God is sovereign? Is He sovereign in everything, except salvation? Explain sovereignty if it’s only partial.

5 If grace is “unmerited favor”, then how can we possibly be saved because there was something inherently good in us?

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Romans 3:10-12
“None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good.”

Romans 3:19
Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 3:23
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Psalm 14:2-3
The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

Psalm 53:1-3
The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good. God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

Jeremiah 17:9
The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. Who can know it?

## Private Notes:

# Romans 10 - Believe to Righteousness

## Key verses to think about.

10:3 For they (the Jews) being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

10:9 If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

10:13 For *"whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.*

10:14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

10:17 So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

10:20 But Isaiah is very bold and says: *"I was found by those who did not seek Me; I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me."*

## Main Truth:

*Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.*

## Discussion Questions:

1 Verses 9-13 tell us how to be saved. Can you summarize how someone can be saved? What do they need to do?

2 What does it mean “to call on the name of the Lord”?

3 How important is it for believers to “confess with their mouth”? Can’t you just quietly believe in your heart?

4 If faith is a gift of God, how does one come to faith?

5 Can someone be saved without hearing the word of God? What about aborigines people who have never heard? Can they be saved?

## Private Notes:

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# Roman's 11 - Elect of Israel

## Key verses to think about.

11:1-2 I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, *of* the tribe of Benjamin. God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew.

11:5-6 Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then *it is* no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace.fn But if *it is* of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

11:15 For if their being cast away *is* the reconciling of the world, what *will* their acceptance *be* but life from the dead?

11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable.

11:30-32 For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!

## Main Truth:

God has mercy on Israel and chose a remnant, just as He is merciful in grafting us into His family, that we all may the Israel of God.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Do you think Israel is still God's chosen people, or has God cut them off?

2 Do you think Israel will one day repent and turn to Christ? Why do you think that?

3 Some Bible scholars think that God's promises to Israel are void and will not be fulfilled because they rejected Christ. What do you think?

4 Do you think Jesus will come and rebuilt the Temple and establish his 1000 year reign, or is the 1000 year reign of Christ figurative and not literal?

5 From the Old Testament can you show God's irrevocable promises to Israel? (Hint: try Ezekiel, Daniel, Zechariah, etc.)

## Commentary:

- Isaiah 66:8 Rebirth as a nation
- Ezekiel 36:24 Regathered homeland
- Ezekiel 40:1-4 Rebuilding Temple
- Zephaniah 3:9 They will call on Lord
- Zechariah 12:10 Conversion to Christ
- Isaiah 27:6 Land becomes fertile
- Zechariah 8:7-8 Returning people
- Zechariah 12:3 Immovable rock
- Ezekiel 36:10-11 Rebuilding cities
- Isaiah 35:1 Desert will Bloom
- Isaiah 42:6 Light for the nations
- Amos 9:15 Survival against odds
- Genesis 17:7-8 Everlasting covenant

What other prophecies can you add? (Consider book of Revelation)

## Private Notes:

# Roman's 12 - Surrendered Life

## Key verses to think about.

12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself more* highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

12:4-5 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

12:10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

12:12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## Main Truth:

We should all be totally surrender to Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives.

## Discussion Questions:

1 What does it mean to “present your bodies a living sacrifice” to God? How can we do that? What does it look like to be totally surrendered to God? Are you?

2 How are we to “renew our minds”? It has to do with being transformed from a worldly mind. How can we do that? Are you doing it daily?

3 Are there three options or levels of the will of God? 1) good 2) acceptable 3) perfect will of God.

4 Are you striving to live at peace with people who are hard to like, let alone live? Who are you struggling to love?

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# Romans 13 - Civil Responsibility

## Key verses to think about.

**13:1 Respect Laws & Government**
Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

**13:9-10 Love One Another**
The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,”fn and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

**13:11 Redeem the Time**
The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

**13:12 Deeds of Darkness**
The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

**13:14 Clothe Yourselves**
Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

## Main Truth:

We should live as children of the light. Always walk in love.

## Discussion Questions:

Paul is talking to Roman citizens who were under such evil rulers as Caesars Claudius and Nero.

1 What if our government is corrupt or evil? What about Nazi Germany? Communist counties?

2 How would you interpret this during the American Revolution?

3 In light of this, is civil disobedience wrong? If the government forces you to bow to Caesar and say, “Caesar is Lord”?

4 What if the government mandates anti-Christian behavior, like complying with liberal world view and “woke” policies?

5 Is the command to “Love one another” a command tolerate sinful lifestyles and not condemn sin or speak out against evil?

6 What are some present-day “Deeds of Darkness”? Is the use of alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling, tax evasion, cheating on your spouse, cursing, smoking, vulgar language, dirty jokes and humor, watching “R” rated movies, etc? Define darkness. What are “desires of the flesh”?

## Private Notes:

# Romans 14 - Judging

## Key verses to think about.

14:4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

14:8 If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

14:12 So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

14:14 I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean.

14:19 Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

14:22 So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves.

## Main Truth:

Don't judge other people because whatever the measurement you use to judge them, wll be used on you.

## Discussion Questions:

1 Is Paul saying, “Don’t judge sin”? If he is then there can be no church discipline. If he means don’t judge ungodly behavior then he contradicts himself. (Read Gal. 5:19-21, 1 Cor. 5:1-5)

2 How can we judge righteous judgment? (John 7:24) what does that mean?

3 What then is holiness? (Hebrews 12:14 “Be holy. Without holiness no man will see the Lord.”)

4 What are God’s standards of holiness? What is holiness? How can you measure holiness without rules, laws, and standards of conduct?

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# Romans 15 – The Weaker Brother

## Key verses to think about.

15:1-2 We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up.

4-6 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind *and one* mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15:7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

15:13 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.

15:20 It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

15:24 I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.

## Main Truth:

Help the weak brothers by loving and encouraging them rather than criticizing.

## Discussion Questions:

1 What is the difference between being a “people pleaser” and pleasing out neighbor? Does that mean we cave in on our convictions so others don’t feel bad?

2 What does “accept one another” mean?

3 Does it mean if a brother is living in sin we should accept their view of…homosexuality, abortion, premarital sex, extramarital sex, or pedophilia? How does that relate to Matthew 18:15-17, 1 John 5:16, and Jude 1:3-4 and Titus 1:9-14?

4 What is the role of the Scriptures Old and New Testament? Is our comfort and learning thr only use of Scripture? What about correction, rebuke, admonish, edify, build up, make us mature, keep us from sin? Give some other Scriptures.

5 Paul desires that we be filled with “all joy and peace” so that we overflow with hope. Are you overflowing with joy, peace, and hope? If not, why not? If only with peace, where’s your joy? Do you experience joy unspeakable and full of glory? (1 Peter 1:8, John 15:11, 1 John 1:4, Galatians 5:22) Are you “overflowing” with anything? What?

## Private Notes:

# Romans 16 - Watch Out!

## Key verses to think about.

16:17 I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned.

16:18 Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.

16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

16:24 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

## Main Truth:

Be wary of self-serving people who use smooth talk and flattery to lead you away from God's revealed word.

## Discussion Questions:

1 What does it mean to "watch out for" those who cause divisions and obstacles? Doesn't that contradict the previous chapter?

2 Paul says "keep away from them." How can you do that if they are part of your church, Bible study, or fellowship group? Isn't that being unkind and divisive?

3 What does Paul mean that "God will soon crush Satan under your feet? How can our feet crush Satan?

## Private Notes: