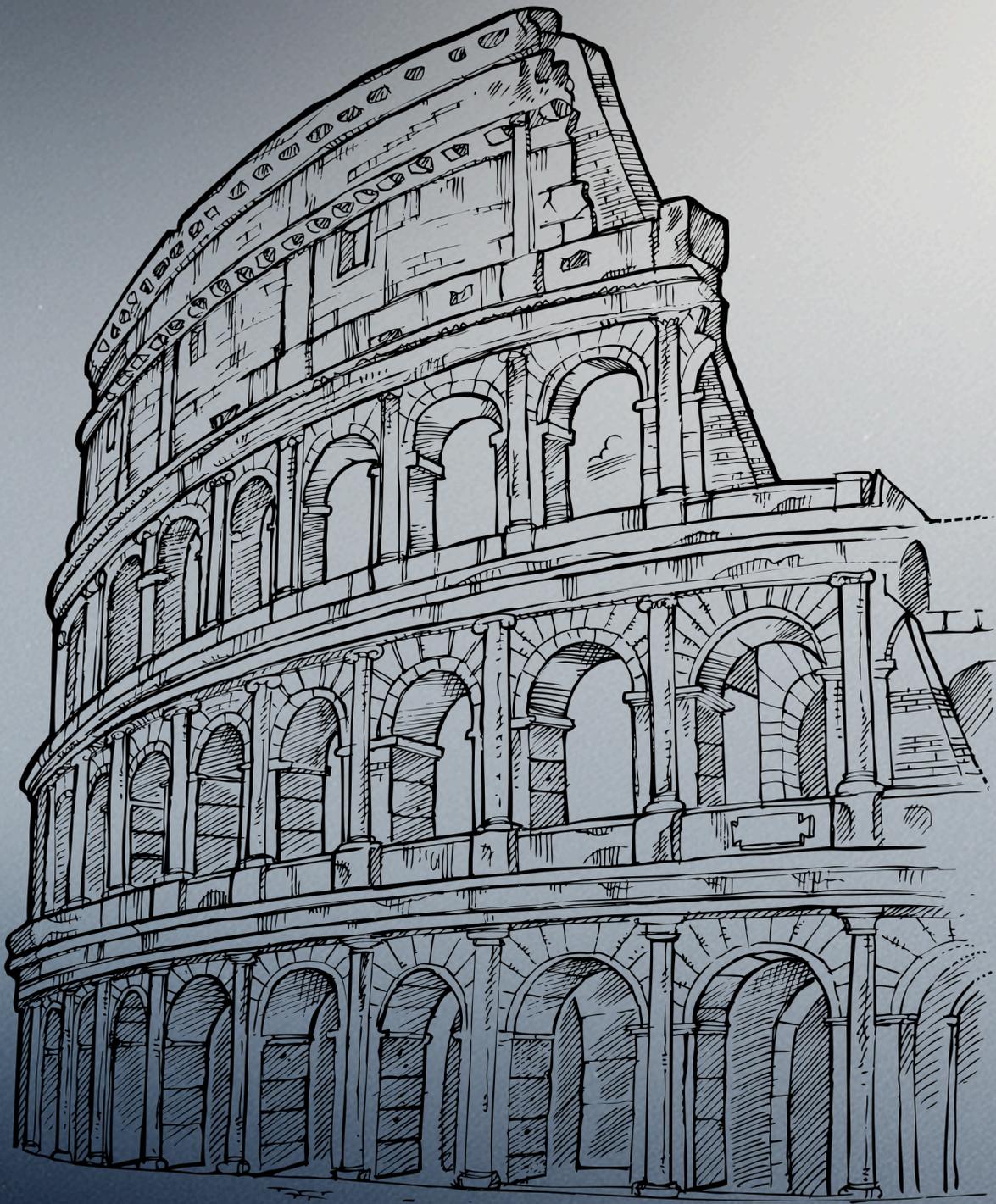




REAL  
Church

BIBLE STUDY  
STUDENT BOOKLET



# ROMANS

CHAPTERS 1 - 11

TAUGHT BY:  
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# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## PAUL'S INTRODUCTION 1:1-7



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## PAUL'S INTRODUCTION 1:1-7 (NLT)

**1** This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News.

**2** God promised this Good News long ago through his prophets in the holy Scriptures.

**3** The Good News is about his Son. In his earthly life he was born into King David's family line,

**4** and he was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit. He is Jesus Christ our Lord.

**5** Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority as apostles to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name.

**6** And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ.

**7** I am writing to all of you in Rome who are loved by God and are called to be his own holy people.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## GATHERING INFORMATION FROM THE PASSAGE

### FILL IN THE BLANK

1. Paul describes himself as a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ Jesus, called to be an \_\_\_\_\_, and set apart for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
2. The gospel was promised beforehand through God's \_\_\_\_\_ in the holy \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus was descended from \_\_\_\_\_ and was declared to be the Son of God by his \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead.
4. The gospel message is for all the \_\_\_\_\_, including both Jews and non-Jews.

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. **What does the Greek word "doulos" mean?** a) Helper  
b) Slave c) Friend d) Teacher
2. **Who are the recipients of Paul's letter?** a) Jerusalem believers b) Rome believers loved by God c) Corinth believers d) Ephesus believers
3. **What is the central event of the Gospel?** a) Jesus' birth b) Jesus' teachings c) The cross d) Jesus' miracles



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## PROCESSING INFORMATION FROM THE PASSAGE

### SHORT ANSWER

1. What is the difference between being “called” to be an apostle and being one of the original 12 disciples? How does Paul establish his authority?
2. Compare the two aspects of Jesus’ identity in verses 3-4: His descent from David and His declaration as Son of God. What do these reveal?
3. Explain what Paul means by “obedience of faith” in verse 5. How does this phrase connect faith and obedience?
4. Why is the resurrection so crucial to the Christian faith? What would be different if Jesus had not been resurrected?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## APPLYING THE PASSAGE TO YOUR DAILY LIFE

### SHORT ANSWER

1. Paul describes himself as a “slave” of Christ. How might viewing yourself as a “slave of Christ” change the way you approach your daily decisions?
2. Compare the two aspects of Jesus’ identity in verses 3-4: His descent from David and His declaration as Son of God. What do these reveal?
3. Explain what Paul means by “obedience of faith” in verse 5. How does this phrase connect faith and obedience?
4. Why is the resurrection so crucial to the Christian faith? What would be different if Jesus had not been resurrected?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*What is one key truth from Romans 1:1-7 that stood out to you the most? Why?*

*Based on your study, what is one specific way you can apply what you've learned to your life this week?*



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## KEY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
<b>SLAVE</b> ( <i>DOULOS</i> )	WILLFULLY GIVING ONE'S LIFE TO CHRIST FOR MINISTRY
<b>APOSTLE</b> ( <i>APOSTELLOS</i> )	A PERSON SELECTED BY GOD TO PREACH THE GOSPEL (E.G. THE 12 DISCIPLES)
<b>GOSPEL</b> ( <i>EUANGELION</i> )	PREACHING ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM THROUGH JESUS' LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION
<b>BELOVED</b> ( <i>AGAPETOS</i> )	PEOPLE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD WHO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE
<b>SAINTS</b> ( <i>HAGIOS</i> )	PEOPLE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD WHO ARE SET APART FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD



**ROMANS BIBLE STUDY**

**PAUL'S PRAYER  
AND THE  
POWER OF THE  
GOSPEL  
1:8 - 17**



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## PAUL'S THANKSGIVING 1:8-17 (NLT)

**8** Let me say first that I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith in him is being talked about all over the world.

**9** God knows how often I pray for you. Day and night I bring you and your needs in prayer to God, whom I serve with all my heart by spreading the Good News about his Son.

**10** One of the things I always pray for is the opportunity, God willing, to come at last to see you.

**11** For I long to visit you so I can bring you some spiritual gift that will help you grow strong in the Lord.

**12** When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.

**13** I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to visit you, but I was prevented until now. I want to work among you and see spiritual fruit, just as I have seen among other Gentiles.

**14** For I have a great sense of obligation to people in both the civilized world and the rest of the world, to the educated and uneducated alike.

**15** So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach the Good News.

**16** For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.

**17** This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## PAUL'S PRAYER COMMITMENT:

Paul prays for the Roman believers  
----- and -----.

## ACTIVITY: MY PRAYER LIST

Write down 2-3 people you are praying for (or should be praying for) regarding their faith journey:

**PERSON 1:**

**PERSON 2:**

**PERSON 3:**

## DEBRIEF QUESTIONS:

How does Paul's example of "day and night" prayer challenge your current prayer life?

What does it mean for our faith to be "proclaimed" like the Roman church? Is your faith visible to others?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## **Activity: Modern Greeks and Gentiles**

Who are today's "Greeks" (educated, culturally sophisticated)?

Who are today's "Marginalized" (those society looks down upon)?

What groups of people do we tend to exclude from evangelism? Why?

## **Debrief Question**

How does Paul's sense of obligation to all people challenge your view of evangelism?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Paul's Rhetorical Device:

When Paul says "I am not ashamed," he is using \_\_\_\_\_ (a negative statement to affirm a positive). Paul is actually saying he is \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel!

## Two Reasons Paul is Not Ashamed:

1.

2.

## Important Clarification:

"To the Jew first and also the Gentile" is a matter of \_\_\_\_\_, not importance.

## Activity: Shame Audit (Personal Reflection)

*Answer these questions honestly. This is between you and God.*

When or where do you feel ashamed of the Gospel? (e.g., at work, school, with certain friends)

What specific aspects of the Gospel do you hesitate to share?

What would it look like for you to be unashamed in that context this week?

## Debrief Questions

Why do you think it's easy to feel ashamed of the Gospel in our culture?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## **Personal Application and Commitment**

What is one key truth from Romans 1:8-17 that stood out most to you?

Based on today's lesson, what is one specific action you will take this week?

What do you need prayer for this week?

## **Memory Verse**

Romans 1:16 (NLT)

**“For I am not ashamed of this  
Good News about Christ.  
It is the power of God at work,  
saving everyone who believes—  
the Jew first and also the  
Gentile.”**



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## KEY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

TERMS	DEFINITIONS
<b>THANKS</b> (EUCHARISTO)	Giving thanksgiving for something or someone
<b>PROCLAIMED</b> (KANTANGELLO)	To openly celebrate faith in Jesus with others
<b>FAITH</b> (PISTIS)	Belief that Jesus is the Messiah through whom humanity obtains relationship with God and eternal life
<b>LONG</b> (EPIPOTHEO)	A deep desire for something or someone
<b>IMPART</b> (METADIDOMI)	To share or give something to someone
<b>SPIRITUAL GIFTS</b> (PENUMATIKOS CHARISMA)	Religious knowledge and teaching that leads to people entering into relationship with God
<b>STRENGTHEN</b> (STERIZO)	To become consistent, stable, and firm in faith
<b>REAP SOME HARVEST</b> (ECHO KARPOS)	To be personally responsible for disciplining unbelievers into relationship with God
<b>OBLIGATION</b> (OPHEILETES)	A duty to do something for someone
<b>GREEKS</b> (HELLENS)	Jewish people who have adopted Greek language and culture
<b>GENTILES</b> (BARBAROS)	Foreigners not accustomed to Hellenistic culture, often viewed as outcasts and marginalized in society



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## KEY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

TERMS	DEFINITIONS
<b>WISE</b> (SOPHOS)	People educated in Greek traditions, including Jewish believers
<b>FOOLISH</b> (ANOETOS)	Gentiles who have not heard the gospel or actively engage the Gospel preferring local mythologies instead
<b>LITOTES</b>	A rhetorical device using negative form to affirm a positive
<b>SALVATION</b> (SOTERIA)	Being delivered from the consequences of sin and attaining eternal security of your soul
<b>RIGHTEOUSNESS</b> (DIKAIOSYNE)	A life that has attained God's approval and no longer at odds with God
<b>REVEALED</b> (APOKALYPTO)	God revealing God's approval to humanity through relationship with humanity



**ROMANS BIBLE STUDY**

**THE WRATH  
OF GOD  
ROMANS 1:18 -  
32  
(PART 1)**



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Romans 1: 18 - 25

<sup>18</sup> But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

<sup>19</sup> They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them.

<sup>20</sup> For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

<sup>21</sup> Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused.

<sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools.

<sup>23</sup> And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

<sup>24</sup> So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies.

<sup>25</sup> They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## QUICK VOCABULARY (WRITE YOUR OWN “CHURCH-LANGUAGE TO REAL-LIFE” DEFINITION)

Wrath:

-----

Ungodly:

-----

Wicked:

-----

Oppressive:

-----

Reveal (in creation):

-----

## FAITH / SPIRITUALITY / WELLNESS PRACTICE (3-5 MINUTES)

Breath Prayer:

Inhale: “God of power eternal...”

Exhale: “Make me truthful.”

Inhale: “God revealed in creation...”

Exhale: “Make me humble.”



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## BODY CHECK-IN:

*Where do you feel resistance when Scripture confronts self, not “them”?*

jaw  chest  stomach  shoulders

other: \_\_\_\_\_

Journal (2 sentences):

“When I’m tempted to suppress truth, it usually sounds like...”

## ART & CULTURE PRACTICE (OUR TRADITION MAKES MEANING THROUGH STORY)

1) “Auntie-Grandma Translation”

(Interpretive Paraphrase)

Write Romans 1:18–23 in two sentences as if explaining to a teen in your church:

1.

2.

2) Soundtrack Reflection (choose one)

Pick a cultural artifact (hymn, gospel song, spoken word, or church saying) that matches today’s theme:

Title/Line:

-----

Why it fits Romans 1:

-----



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

POLICY / POWER / PUBLIC WITNESS  
(MOVING FROM BELIEF → ACTION)

## Case Study: “Respectability vs. Truth”

A respected leader in a Black professional network protects a harmful practice because **“it would look bad for us”** and **“we’ve worked too hard to be judged.”** People with less power are pressured to stay quiet.

Discuss or write:

1. Where do you see ungodly / wicked / oppressive dynamics?
2. What truth is being suppressed? Who benefits?
3. What would accountability look like in our culture (not performative, not punitive)?
4. Access question: Who is left out of safety, voice, or leadership—and how do we expand access?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

**Creation Witness (Romans 1:20 Practice)  
3-minute Creation Scan (before next session):**

Step outside or look out a window. Name 3 signs of God's power you notice:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Reflection:

What does creation teach you about God's eternal power and divinity—beyond your control?

One Sentence Commitment

“Because God is revealed and God is holy, I will...”



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## GOD'S POWER AND NATURE ARE INVISIBLE

- We experience His power and nature through His work in creation.

My translation (1–2 sentences):

## FAITH / SPIRITUALITY / WELLNESS (5–7 MINUTES)

### 1) Gratitude + Truth Examen

1. Where did I notice God's power or presence through creation this week? (beauty, provision, order, timing, limits, consequences, peace)

2. Where did I live like God wasn't real (functional denial) (e.g., pride, self-sufficiency, "I got it," ignoring conviction)?

3. Where did I withhold honor/thanks from God?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Art & Culture (Meaning-Making in Our Tradition)

1) “Auntie/Uncle Translation” (2 sentences)  
Explain Romans 1:19–21 like you’re talking to a teen in church:

- 1.
- 2.

2) Culture Artifact Reflection (Choose one)  
Pick a hymn, gospel song, spoken word piece, or church saying that fits Romans 1:19–21.

Title/Line:

-----  
Why it fits Romans :19-21:  
-----

3) Micro-Testimony (6–8 sentences)  
Title: “When I ignored what God was showing me.” Include: what was revealed, what you told yourself, what changed.



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## GOD ALLOWS WICKED/UNGODLY PEOPLE TO LIVE AS THEY CHOSE APART FROM HIS PROTECTION

a. They choose not to worship God  
My translation (2–3 sentences):

### “Name the Idol, Reclaim the Worship” The idol I’m most tempted by (check one):

- success  image/respectability  comfort
- control  money  approval
- politics/tribe  romance
- platform/status  other:

-----  
What it promises me:

What it costs me (or others):



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

**Prompt: “We exchanged the truth for a lie when...”**

**Write 6–10 lines (honest, not generic):**

## **Create a Congregational Response Prayer**

Leader: “Lord, keep us from

-----”

People: “We return to Your truth.”

Leader: “Forgive us for

-----”

People: “We choose worship over idols.”

Leader: “Heal our community where

-----”

People: “Make us whole.”

Leader: “Send us to

-----”

People: “We will widen access and protect the vulnerable.”



**ROMANS BIBLE STUDY**

**THE WRATH  
OF GOD  
ROMANS 1:18 -  
32  
(PART 2)**



**ROMANS BIBLE STUDY**

**RIGHTEOUS  
VS.  
UNRIGHTEOUS  
JUDGMENT  
ROMANS  
2:1-16**



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 1 – THE DANGERS OF HUMAN JUDGMENT ROMANS 2:1–3

### A. WARM-UP: HOW JUDGMENT FEELS (SHORT ANSWER)

1. WRITE ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES HOW IT FEELS WHEN SOMEONE JUDGES YOU.

2. ANSWER:

-----  
3. IN YOUR OWN WORDS, WHAT IS PAUL WARNING US ABOUT IN ROMANS 2:1–3?

### B. FILL-IN-THE-BLANK: PAUL'S WARNING ABOUT JUDGMENT

USE THE WORD BANK TO COMPLETE THE STATEMENTS.

WORD BANK: CONDEMN • SAME SINS • SELF-RIGHTEOUS • GOD'S JUDGMENT

1. WHEN WE JUDGE OTHERS WHILE COMMITTING THE \_\_\_\_\_, WE \_\_\_\_\_ OURSELVES.

2. PAUL IS SPEAKING TO \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY CAN ESCAPE \_\_\_\_\_.

### C. REFLECTION: WHEN WE JUDGE OTHERS

1. DESCRIBE A TIME WHEN YOU JUDGED SOMEONE FOR SOMETHING YOU ALSO STRUGGLE WITH. WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

D. CULTURAL REFLECTION (SPIRITUAL ORGANIZING LENS)

IN MANY BLACK AND BROWN COMMUNITIES, JUDGMENT OFTEN SHOWS UP AS COMPARISON, RESPECTABILITY POLITICS, OR “CHURCH FOLKS” POLICING BEHAVIOR.

- WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN UNRIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT SHOW UP IN YOUR COMMUNITY OR FAMILY?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 2 – GOD’S KINDNESS LEADS TO REPENTANCE

ROMANS 2:4–5

### A. QUICK RESPONSE (TRUE/FALSE + SHORT ANSWER)

1. TRUE OR FALSE: GOD’S PATIENCE MEANS HE IS OKAY WITH HOW I AM LIVING.
2. CIRCLE ONE: TRUE / FALSE
3. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THAT ANSWER?

### B. FILL-IN-THE-BLANK: THE PURPOSE OF GOD’S KINDNESS

1. PAUL SAYS GOD’S KINDNESS IS MEANT TO LEAD US TO -----.
2. A HARDENED, UNREPENTANT HEART STORES UP ----- FOR THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.

### C. REFLECTION: REPENTANCE & REAL CHANGE

1. WHAT DOES REPENTANCE MEAN TO YOU—NOT THE CHURCH DEFINITION, BUT YOUR LIVED EXPERIENCE?

### D. CULTURAL REFLECTION

OUR ELDERS OFTEN TAUGHT THAT “GOD’S GRACE IS NOT TO BE PLAYED WITH.”

1. HOW HAVE YOU SEEN GOD’S PATIENCE SHOW UP IN YOUR LIFE OR COMMUNITY?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 3 – GOD’S RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT BASED ON DEEDS & COVENANT

ROMANS 2:6–16

A. MATCHING ACTIVITY: TWO ETERNAL OUTCOMES MATCH EACH DESCRIPTION TO THE CORRECT OUTCOME.

### *DESCRIPTION*

1. ETERNAL LIFE

A. FOR THOSE WHO ARE SELF-SEEKING AND DISOBEDIENT

### *OUTCOME*

2. WRATH & FURY

B. FOR THOSE WHO SEEK GOD, DO GOOD, AND HONOR HIM

YOUR MATCHES:

1 → ---

2 → ---

B. SHORT ANSWER: GOD’S IMPARTIAL JUDGMENT

1. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT GOD “SHOWS NO FAVORITISM”?

C. EVALUATE

1. WHAT DOES YOUR DAILY LIFE SAY ABOUT WHICH PATH YOU ARE ON—LIFE OR WRATH? BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF.

D. CULTURAL REFLECTION

PAUL TEACHES THAT GOD JUDGES BASED ON HOW WE HAVE LIVED, NOT THE LABELS WE CARRY.

1. WHAT CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS LABELS HAVE SHAPED HOW PEOPLE SEE YOU? DO THEY MATCH HOW YOU ACTUALLY LIVE?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 4 – PERSONAL INTEGRATION & SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

### A. ONE-WORD CHECK-IN

1. WRITE ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES WHAT YOU WANT TO TAKE FROM TODAY'S LESSON.

2. ANSWER:

-----

### B. ACTION STEP (SHORT ANSWER)

1. NAME ONE SPECIFIC ACTION YOU WILL TAKE THIS WEEK TO ALIGN YOUR LIFE WITH GOD'S RIGHTEOUS STANDARD.



**ROMANS BIBLE STUDY**

**AUTHENTIC  
BELIEVERS OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
2:17 - 29**







# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Integrity Inventory: Public Faith, Private Life

### A. Integrity Checklist

Check any areas where your public ministry and private life may not fully align:

- I teach or correct others but struggle with the same issue privately.
- I share scripture publicly but ignore conviction privately.
- I evangelize but my lifestyle weakens my witness.
- I claim spiritual maturity but avoid accountability.
- I serve faithfully but harbor unconfessed sin.

### B. Reflection Question

Which checked area most threatens your witness, and why?

### C. Personal Commitment

Name one concrete step you will take this week to bring your private life into alignment with your public faith.



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Ritual, Identity, and Obedience

Sort each item into the correct column:

Item	Ritual / Identity Marker	Evidence of Obedience
Baptism certificate		
Years serving on a ministry board		
Consistently choosing integrity when no one is watching		
Repenting when convicted by the Spirit		

### Reflection Question

Paul teaches that circumcision had value only when paired with obedience. Which ritual or identity marker in your life has become more of a badge than a pathway to deeper obedience?

### Application

What is one way you can reconnect that ritual to genuine relationship with God this week?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Internal Faith vs. External Identity

### External Identity Check

Paul challenges the assumption that outward markers define a true believer.

Sort each item into the category that best fits your current spiritual life.

Item	External Identity Marker	Internal Spiritual Reality
Being raised in the church		
Having a minister in the family		
Years of church membership		
Choosing integrity when no one is watching		
Seeking God in private prayer		
Making decisions shaped by the Spirit		



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## Internal Transformation: Circumcision of the Heart

Paul says true circumcision is “of the heart,” done by the Spirit—not by heritage, résumé, or religious performance.

### A. Short Answer:

1. When you are alone with God, what practices or decisions reveal the authenticity of your faith?

2. Where do you sense the Spirit inviting deeper transformation beneath the surface?

### B. Self-Inventory:

**Check any statements that resonate with your current reality:**

- I sometimes assume my background makes me spiritually “good.”
- My private obedience does not always match my public identity.
- I have relied on titles, roles, or years of service to define my faith.
- I want my heart to be more aligned with God than my résumé is.
- I am learning to let the Spirit reshape my motives, not just my actions.



**ROMANS BIBLE STUDY**

**ROMANS 3:1-8  
| AUTHENTIC  
BELIEVERS OF  
JESUS CHRIST**

**"LET GOD BE TRUE, AND EVERY HUMAN BEING A LIAR." –  
ROMANS 3:4**



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 1: THE VALUE OF SPIRITUAL CONVERSION

### ENTRUSTED WITH GOD'S WORD | ROMANS 3:1-2

#### ACTIVITY 1 – What Do You See?

Read Romans 3:1-2 in two different translations (suggested: NIV and The Message).

#### A. Observation:

In your own words, what is the main question Paul asks in verse 1, and what is his direct answer in verse 2?

Paul's question:

Paul's answer:

#### B. Word Spotlight:

Paul uses the phrase "entrusted with the very words of God."

Circle all the words below that describe what it means to be entrusted with something valuable:

Responsible    Honored    Obligated     
Burdened    Privileged    Accountable    Lucky

#### C. Quick Write:

In one or two sentences, describe a time in your own life when someone entrusted you with something important (an object, a secret, a responsibility).

What did that feel like?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## ACTIVITY 2 – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Build on what you identified in Activity 1.  
Now move from observation to meaning.

In many communities, when an elder gives you something of great value – a family Bible, a piece of wisdom, a name – it comes with an expectation. You are supposed to carry it, live by it, and pass it on."

- How does that cultural understanding change the way you hear Paul saying believers were entrusted with God's Word?
- What does it mean that this is called the "chief advantage" of spiritual conversion – not wealth, not status, not protection – but the Word?

Being entrusted with God's Word means I am not just a recipient of it – I am also a \_\_\_\_\_ of it. That means in my daily life, I should...

### Anchor Check:

In the space below, rate your current relationship to God's Word on a scale of 1–5. (1 = I rarely engage with it / 5 = It actively shapes my decisions)

My rating: \_\_\_\_\_

One honest reason for that rating:



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 2: MY SIN CONFIRMS GOD'S JUSTICE GOD'S FAITHFULNESS WITHSTANDS OUR FAILURE | ROMANS 3:3-5

### ACTIVITY 1 – What Is the Tension?

Build on Section 1. You've established that believers are entrusted with God's Word. Now Paul raises the uncomfortable question: what happens when believers fail that trust?

Read Romans 3:3-4. Then respond:

#### A. Identify the Two Sides:

Paul sets up a contrast between human unfaithfulness and God's faithfulness.

Fill in the chart below.

	What Humans Do	What God Does
<i>According to Romans 3:3-4</i>		
<i>In Your Own Experience</i>		

**B. Verse 4 Analysis:** Paul quotes Psalm 51 when he says "Let God be true and every human being a liar."

- Why do you think Paul uses such absolute language here? What is at stake if God's faithfulness could be nullified by human failure?
- What would it mean for your own faith if God's faithfulness could run out?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 2: MY SIN CONFIRMS GOD'S JUSTICE GOD'S FAITHFULNESS WITHSTANDS OUR FAILURE | ROMANS 3:3-5

### ACTIVITY 2 – SO WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR ME?

Build on your chart and analysis from Activity 1.  
Now apply the theological claim to real life.

#### **Scenario:**

A person in your community has been through a season of serious moral failure – broken relationships, compromised values, distance from God. They say: "I've done too much. God's promises don't apply to me anymore."

A. Using Paul's argument from Romans 3:3-4, how would you respond to that person? Write your response as if you were speaking directly to them (2-4 sentences):

#### **B. Evaluate Your Own Belief:**

Paul says human sin actually confirms and displays God's righteousness.

Do you find that idea:

- Comforting    Confusing    Challenging
- Convicting    All of the above

Why?



# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 3: SALVATION IS NOT A LICENSE TO SIN

### *GRACE IS A FOUNDATION, NOT A PERMISSION SLIP / ROMANS 3:5-8*

#### **ACTIVITY 1 – Name the Distortion**

Read Romans 3:5-8. Then respond:

##### **A. Identify the False Logic:**

In verse 8, Paul quotes a slander being spread about the gospel: "Let us do evil that good may come."

Restate that argument in your own words – as if you were someone genuinely trying to defend it:

##### **B. Evaluate the Argument:**

Now that you've named it clearly, identify what is wrong with it. Use the reasoning Paul provides:

##### **C. Real-World Versions:**

This false logic doesn't only show up in theology – it shows up in everyday life. Check any versions of this argument you've heard (in church, in culture, or in your own thinking):

- "God will forgive me anyway, so it's fine."
- "Grace covers it – I don't need to address the harm I've caused."
- "They said sorry, so we should act like it never happened."
- "If I'm already struggling with this sin, what's the point in trying to stop?"
- Other:

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# ROMANS BIBLE STUDY

## SECTION 3: SALVATION IS NOT A LICENSE TO SIN

*GRACE IS A FOUNDATION, NOT A PERMISSION SLIP | ROMANS 3:5-8*

### ACTIVITY 2 – Build the Counter-Narrative

#### **A. Complete the Statement:**

Paul calls grace the starting place for transformed living – not a pass on transformation. In your own words, write a 3–5 sentence statement that captures what authentic grace actually looks like, looks different from cheap grace.

(Write it as if you're explaining it to someone who is brand new to the faith.)

What authentic grace looks like:

#### **B. Personal Commitment:**

Identify one area of your life where you have been tempted to treat grace as permission rather than as power for transformation.

#### **C. Closing Synthesis – Full Circle:**

*Look back at Activity 1 from Section 1.*

You identified what it means to be entrusted with God's Word. Now that you've worked through all three sections, complete this final prompt:

Because I have been entrusted with God's Word (Romans 3:2), and because God's faithfulness holds even in my failure (Romans 3:4), I will not use grace as an excuse – I will use it as a

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This week, one concrete step I can take to live that out is:

