

“God News from God”

Romans 1:1-17.

A background to the letter:

The Apostle Paul probably wrote Romans in AD 57 while he was in Corinth in the home of his friend Gaius (Acts 28:11-31). Paul had never met the church in Rome but longed to do so (Romans 1:11-13). That is why he felt he needed to fully explain to them in a letter what he normally would have in person - how to know your right with God. The letter to the Romans is one big explanation of the gospel.

Why Romans?

How do you respond to good news?

What is the good news from God?

1. **The good news from God is about Jesus.**
(verses 1 to 4)
2. **The good news from God changes lives.**
(verses 5 to 15)
3. **The good news from God is about power, salvation, faith and righteousness.**
(verses 16 and 17)

Romans is one big explanation of the Gospel.

The good news is you can know you are right with God.

A Bible Study – Romans 1:1-17

Pray:

To begin with, pray. Ask God to teach you about Himself from his word.

Start by sharing your thoughts:

What do you understand the gospel to be? In your opinion, how important is its message? Why? Go around the group and share your thoughts.

Read the passage: Romans 1:1-17

Questions:

1. What does the Apostle Paul “long” to do? What is the reason for writing his letter to the church in Rome? (Read verses 11 to 15)
Why? (See verse 13 to 15 and also 5 and 6)
He also says (verses 16,17) that he is “not ashamed of the gospel”. Why?
2. In verses 1 to 4 Paul reminds his readers that he is “a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God”. What does this tell you about Paul and the gospel?
What else do we learn about the gospel from verses 1 to 4?
3. Finally, in verses 7 to 12 what does Paul write in the way of encouragement to the church in Rome?
4. The books and letters of the Bible (first understood in the context of them being addressed to their original readers) are also God’s Word to us. From these opening verses of Romans what have you discovered about **your** relationship with God and the gospel?

Think and Pray:

Think on what you have learnt about God and your relationship with him and thank him in a prayer.

In preparation for next week’s Bible Study read ahead Romans 1:18-32.

This Bible Study is such that it can be done on one’s own or with others in a Bible Study Group - even around the table at home. It’s designed to help you to remember the sermon, grow in your knowledge and love of God, appreciate your fellowship with other believers and to take your part in the life of the Church as followers of Jesus Christ.

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