



CHURCH | AT | BERGEN

COMMUNITY GROUP - QUESTION ONLY

Romans | Season 1, Ep. 1 | 1:1-7

Monday, March 9 - Sunday, March 15 (Week 9)

This week, Pastor Mike launched our new series through the book of Romans, a letter that has transformed some of history's greatest Christian leaders like Augustine, Martin Luther, and John Wesley. Over the next two years or so, we'll walk through this book verse by verse, memorizing key passages together as a church.

In Romans 1:1-6, Paul introduces himself and the gospel message. He answers three fundamental questions that every person asks: "Who am I? Where do I fit in? What's my purpose?"

Paul's answer: "I am a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God."

Paul emphasizes that this is the "Gospel of God," it belongs to God, not us. We don't get to change it or redefine it. The gospel is good news about Jesus Christ, who was descended from David (the promised Messiah) and declared to be the Son of God in power by His resurrection from the dead.

At the resurrection, something critical happened: Jesus received the Holy Spirit and became the sole source of salvation. He alone has the power to pour out the Spirit on anyone who calls on Him. This is why Jesus is the only way to be saved.

Paul's mission was to bring about "the obedience of faith," meaning that genuine, saving faith always results in obedience to Jesus. We must see ourselves first as "sinners saved by grace" before we see ourselves in any role or calling, because grace can never be taken away, but our roles can be.

The sermon closed with this challenge: What does your faith in the powerful, risen Son of God demand from you today? Whether it's believing for the first time, getting baptized, belonging to a church, or walking in obedience in a specific area—Jesus calls us to respond.

The heart of the gospel isn't just about what Jesus did for us, but about who Jesus is for us. The question is: Do you want Jesus Himself, or just what He can do for you?

QUESTION #1 - The sermon emphasized that Paul answered three critical questions: "Who am I? Where do I fit in? What's my purpose?" How would you currently answer these three questions for yourself? Where do you feel most confident, and where do you struggle?





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QUESTION #2 - Pastor Mike defined "obedience of faith" as "saving faith results in obedience." What's one area of your life where you know Jesus is calling you to obedience, but you've been hesitant or resistant, and what's holding you back?

QUESTION #3 - The sermon stressed "grace before calling," meaning: seeing yourself as a sinner saved by grace before seeing yourself in your role (parent, spouse, professional, etc.). Have you ever experienced losing or struggling in a role that felt like your identity? How did that affect you? How might seeing yourself first as "saved by grace" change how you approach your current roles?

QUESTION #4 - Pastor Mike asked: "Do you want Christ in your life?" Not just forgiveness from guilt, but Jesus Himself. If you're honest, are you more drawn to what Jesus can do for you (forgiveness, peace, purpose) or to Jesus Himself? What would it look like for you to pursue Jesus, not just His benefits?

