

The Unveiling

righteousness,
redemption,
and hope
in Romans

HOME GROUP STUDY
Week 1



"LET'S GET THIS STARTED!"

Welcome to our Home Group companion study for the teaching series The Unveiling: Righteousness, Redemption, and Hope in Romans. Throughout the coming year, we will be making our way through Romans, with some breaks along the way.

This study is designed as a companion to Crosspoint's weekend teaching. It will help you to discuss and apply the content from the message. It also provides an option for you to dig deeper into the Word of God. You will find it uses the same core text from the sermon.

We encourage you to prayerfully read through this study before your meeting. Make changes as you see fit. You know your Home Group better than we do, so adjustments and alterations to the questions are inevitable. There is no perfect curriculum that perfectly matches every group's needs and journey.

As always, we welcome and appreciate your feedback on this curriculum. Be prepared to share your insights at the next Home Group leaders huddle, or email us.



A BASIC AGENDA



These are the basic elements in every Home Group meeting. You have the option of doing either the "message reflection" or the "deeper in the Word" sections. You likely won't have time to do both, especially if your group likes to share. Remember, the goal of your group is to build transformed lives, not to keep an agenda. Pay attention to what the Holy Spirit is doing. If you need to change things up, go for it.

ICEBREAKER

Take ten minutes to reconnect and get to know each other.

MESSAGE DISCUSSION

Discuss the teaching from the Sunday message. Hopefully, you've all seen it!

DEEPER IN THE WORD

Dig into the core scripture passage from the weekend teaching.

REFLECTION

Talk about the meaning of the text and how it personally applies.

PRAYER

Set aside time to share needs and pray for group members.

**ALL ROADS IN THE BIBLE LEAD
TO ROMANS, AND WHEN THE
MESSAGE OF ROMANS GETS
INTO A PERSON'S HEART
THERE IS NO TELLING WHAT
MAY HAPPEN.**

J.I. PACKER

CORE TEXT

ROMANS 1:1-17 (ESV)

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, 6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, 7 To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. 9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you 10 always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. 11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— 12 that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. 13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. 14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. 15 So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."



ICEBREAKER

If your group doesn't know each other well, or if you've been apart for a while, an icebreaker is a great way to assist you in getting reacquainted. Icebreakers also 'break the ice' and help people engage in conversation.

When you share information about yourself with others, and they accept you for who you are, it builds trust. This trust leads to greater transparency and openness. If you want some icebreaker ideas, check out the resources at the end of this book.

IF I TRUST YOU WITH MY STORY, YOU MIGHT TRUST ME WITH YOURS.



WEEKEND MESSAGE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Have one or more people read the text out loud.

1. What were some of the worst news items you heard this past year? Do you have any good news to share with the group?
2. Have you read the book of Romans before? How has it impacted you?
3. Paul was using subversive language to remind the church about who the true Son of God was (not Nero). Why do you think the church needed to be reminded of this?
4. Rob said, "Salvation is far greater, far more expansive, than a get-out-of-jail-free card." Why should the gospel's power for salvation make us unashamed?
5. What issues and events created tension between the Jews and Gentiles in the Roman church? What are some of the issues causing tension in churches today?
6. How might the power of the gospel be the answer to the divisions we see in our world? Why is it important to be reminded to "meet someone who doesn't look like you?"
7. What did you need to hear in this week's message? What do you need to trust God with this week?

DEEPER IN THE WORD

thecrosspointchurch.ca



DEEPER IN THE WORD, PT. 1

ROMANS 1:1-17

Have one or more people read the text out loud before you start.

1. What do we learn about the gospel (good news) in his section of Paul's letter?
2. Why do you think Paul referenced the Old Testament and its promise of Jesus in verses 2-3?
3. Paul uses the phrase, "the obedience of faith," as the goal of his work as an apostle (v.5). What do you think he meant? Why do we often separate faith and obedience? (See Matt. 5:16; Eph. 2:10; Phil. 2:12-13)
4. Even though Paul didn't plant the church in Rome (and never before visited), why did he want to visit them?
5. What was Paul's first posture in the letter (v.8)? What can we learn from this?
6. The Hellenists (Greeks) divided the world into Greeks and barbarians, while the Jews divided them into Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews). Why is Paul "under obligation" to bring the gospel to them all (vv.14-15)? Check out verse 5 as well.
7. Paul said he is "not ashamed of the gospel" (v.16). What did that make him eager to do (v.15)?

DEEPER IN THE WORD, PT. 2

ROMANS 1:1-17

Note: For Paul, "salvation" (v.16) would never be reduced to "going to be with Jesus when I die." What will become obvious as we study Romans, is that salvation is both a present reality and a future hope. We are saved, being saved, and will be saved.

8. How do we access this power? How have you witnessed God's saving power in yourself or others?

9. Paul continues in verse 17 to say that, "in [the gospel] the righteousness of God is revealed." This is a phrase from Paul's Jewish background which refers to his justice, faithfulness, and ability to keep his promises. How might the gospel demonstrate God's righteousness? This will come up later in Romans!

10. If we believe the gospel transcends racial or ethnic divisions, then what should that mean for your life? What about your church? How is the gospel an answer to the divisions in our world?

11. The declaration, "Jesus is Lord," was understood by the Roman Christians to be a definitive fact. Jesus was raised from the dead as Lord of Lords. What does it mean for us to be "unashamed" of this gospel? What does "faith" in this gospel look like?



SUBMERGED IN ROMANS

1

Watch the Bible Project's "Romans" video on YouTube. Check out the first of two videos [here](#).

2

Read "Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part One" by N.T. Wright as you go through the series. Order it [here](#).

3

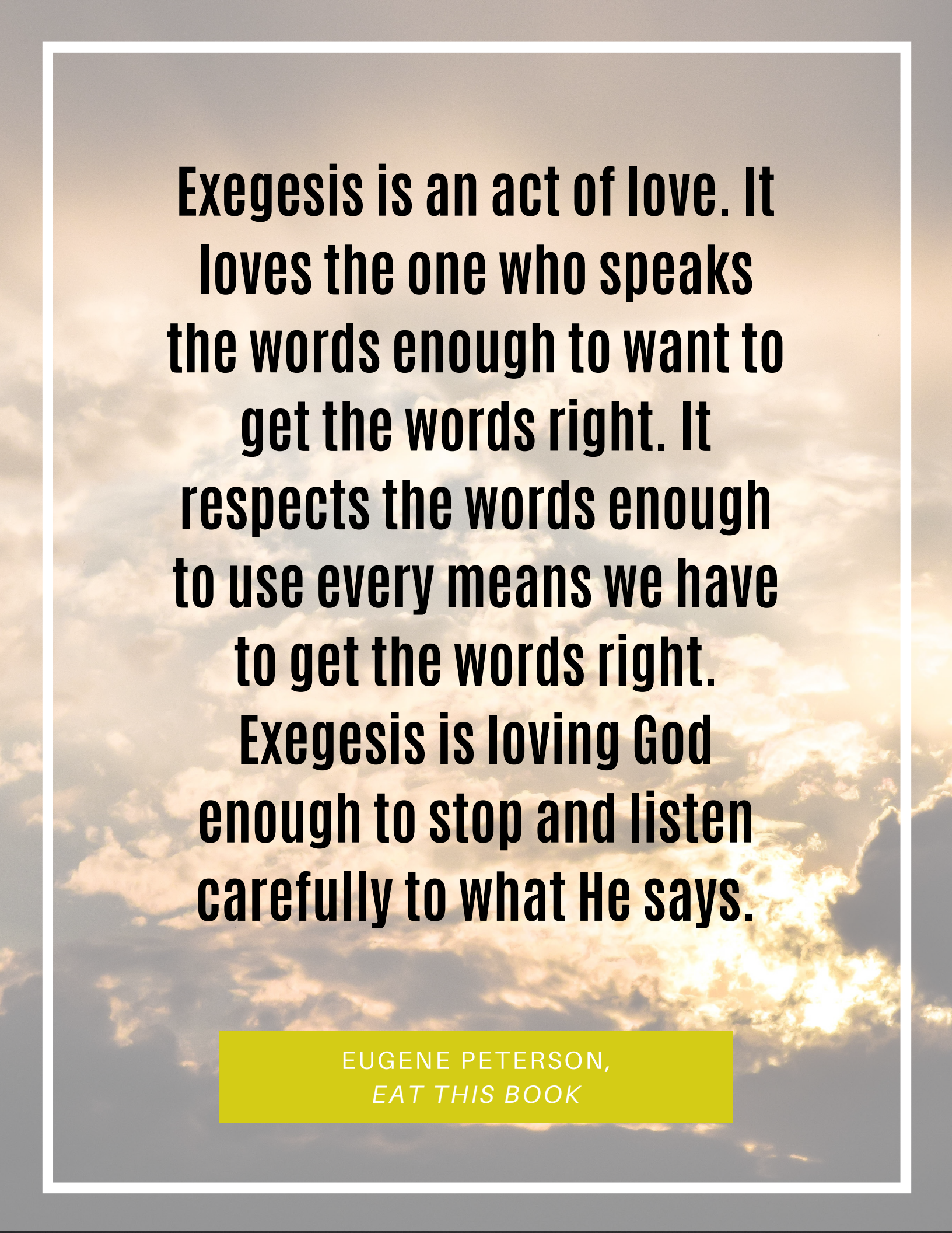
Take the free Biblical Training online course with biblical scholar Douglas Moo. Sign up [here](#).

4

Read and pray through Romans in 31 days. A helpful guide is [here](#). They don't need to be consecutive days!

5

Read through the entire book of Romans. In fact, we encourage you to do it a few times, in different translations. Access more translations [here](#).



**Exegesis is an act of love. It
loves the one who speaks
the words enough to want to
get the words right. It
respects the words enough
to use every means we have
to get the words right.
Exegesis is loving God
enough to stop and listen
carefully to what He says.**

EUGENE PETERSON,
EAT THIS BOOK

49 ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

1. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?
2. If I gave you \$10,000, what would you spend it on?
3. What has been a recent high point and low point in your life?
4. If you could watch your favourite movie now, what would it be?
5. If you could talk to anyone in the world, who would it be?
6. If you could wish one thing to come true this year, what would it be?
7. What are you thankful for today?
8. If you could live in any period of history, when would it be?
9. If you could change anything about yourself, what would you change?
10. Describe your past week in weather terms. (Was it stormy, cloudy, foggy, mostly sunny or what?)
11. If you could be someone else, who would you be?
12. If you could have any question answered, what would it be?
13. What is one thing you are looking forward to?
14. If you could watch your favourite TV show now, what would it be?
15. Name one thing you really like about yourself.
16. If you could have any kind of pet, what would you have?
17. When did God become more than a word to you?
18. If you could do your dream job 10 years from now, what would it be?
19. What is a challenge you are facing right now? (How could we help you?)
20. If you had to be allergic to something, what would it be?
21. If you sat down next to Jesus on a bus, what would you talk about?
22. What is one thing you are really good at?
23. If money and time was no object, what would you be doing right now?
24. One fact about me that might surprise you is...
25. If you had one day to live over again, what day would you pick?

ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

26. If you could eat your favourite food now, what would it be?
27. If you could learn any skill, what would it be?
28. What is one thing you like to do when you have free time?
29. Do you have a pet? If not, what sort of pet would you like?
30. If you were sent to live on a space station for three months and only allowed to bring three personal items with you, what would they be?
31. If you could buy a car right now, what would you buy?
32. If you had a time machine that would work only once, what point in the future or in history would you visit?
33. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?
34. If your house was burning down, what three objects would you try and save?
35. If you could talk to any one person now living, who would it be and why?
36. If you HAD to give up one of your senses (hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling, tasting) which would it be and why?
37. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about God?
38. If you were an animal, what would you be and why?
39. Name a gift you will never forget?
40. What's your favourite thing to do in the summer?
41. Who's your favourite cartoon character, and why?
42. Does your name have a special meaning and or were you named after someone special?
43. What is the hardest thing you have ever done?
44. If you are at a friend's or relative's house for dinner and you find a dead insect in your salad, what would you do?
45. What was the best thing that happened to you this past week?
46. If you had this week over again what would you do differently?
47. What's the weirdest thing you've ever eaten?
48. If you could ask Christ to change one problem in the world today, what would you like him to change?
49. What book, movie or video have you seen/read recently you would recommend?