The Aweiling

righteousness, redemption, and hope in Romans

HOME GROUP STUDY
Week 12



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.

CORE TEXT

ROMANS 6:15-23 (ESV)

15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. 19 I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. 22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Adam and Eve believed that if they ate the fruit, they would become like God. They would have the knowledge of good and evil. They could strike out on their own - be their own masters. They were drunk on the dream of pure, undiluted, onehundred proof autonomy. But when they went looking for freedom, they found only chains.

ROB CHARTRAND

APRIL 25 MESSAGE

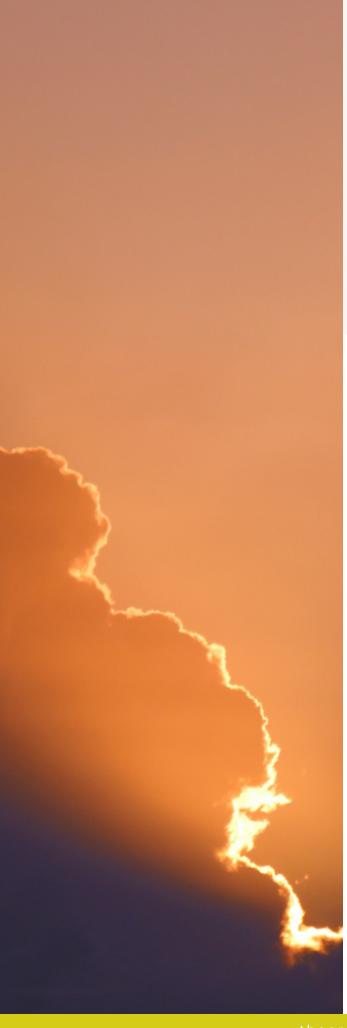


ICEBREAKER

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.

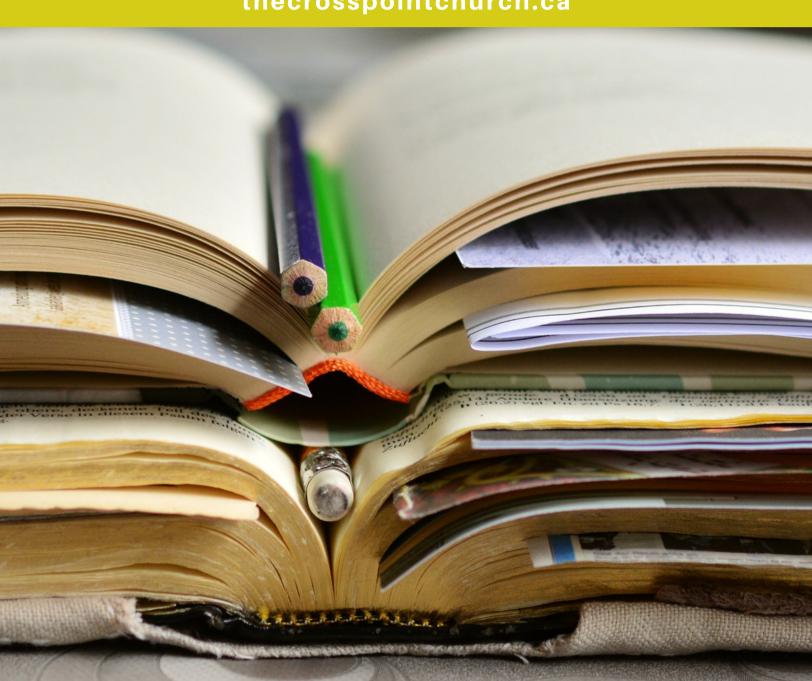
- 1. Did you have any pets growing up? Talk about your favourite or least favourite pet.
- 2. How are laws or rules important? What are their limitations?
- 3. How did God speak to you in this week's message?
- 4. How do you feel about the idea of being a slave (honestly)? Do you think this is accurate, an overstatement, or an understatement?
- 5. "Our culture's understanding of freedom is often lob-sided. We way we want freedom, but what we really want is autonomy." How do you interpret this statement from the message? Talk about the differences between negative freedom (from) and positive freedom (for).
- 6. If God gets our hearts, he'll get our habits. He chooses to work from the inside-out. Why do we often try to do this in reverse?
- 7. The fuel of our new freedom is grace. How can we continue to allow this to compel us, rather than fear? Share some practical ideas that have worked for you.

"WHEN I THOUGHT GOD WAS HARD, I FOUND IT EASY TO SIN; BUT WHEN I FOUND GOD SO KIND, SO GOOD, SO OVERFLOWING WITH COMPASSION, I SMOTE UPON MY BREAST TO THINK THAT I COULD EVER HAVE REBELLED AGAINST ONE WHO LOVED ME SO, AND SOUGHT MY GOOD."

CHARLES SPURGEON

DEEPER IN THE WORD

thecrosspointchurch.ca



DEEPER IN THE WORD, PT. 1

ROMANS 6:15-23

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

- 1. Based on what Paul has been saying thus far in Romans, what is the difference between being under grace and under the Law (v.1)?
- 2. How does Paul use the analogy of slavery in verses 16-18 to answer the question he poses in verse 15? Does Paul believe it is possible to NOT be a slave to something?
- 3. What do we learn about obedience from verse 17 when it says, "obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed." What does it say about where obedience begins? What does it say about how obedience is demonstrated?
- 4. What do you think Paul means by "natural limitations" in verse 19?
- 5. Paul uses the word "present" in verses 16 and 19. What does he have in mind? How would you go about doing this?
- 6. What is the fruit of presenting yourself to God as obedient slaves (verse 19, 22)? What was the fruit of being under sin?
- 7. In verse 23, Paul explains the difference between sin and Christ Jesus. Explain the difference. Why is this good news?

SUBMERGED IN ROMANS

- Watch the Bible Project's "Romans" video on YouTube.
 Check out the first of two videos here.
- Read "Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part One" by N.T.
 Wright as you go through the series. Order it here.
- Take the free Biblical Training online course with biblical scholar Douglas Moo. Sign up here.
- Read and pray through Romans in 31 days. A helpful guide is <u>here</u>. They don't need to be consecutive days!
- Read through the entire book of Romans. In fact, we encourage you to do it a few times, in different translations. Access more translations <u>here</u>.

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?