

# The Unveiling

righteousness,  
redemption,  
and hope  
in Romans

**HOME GROUP STUDY**  
Week 4



# "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.

# CORE TEXT

## ROMANS 2:12-29 (ESV)

12 For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. 13 For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. 14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them 16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

17 But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God 18 and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from the law; 19 and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, 20 an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— 21 you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? 22 You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? 23 You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. 24 For, as it is written, “The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.”

25 For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. 26 So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? 27 Then he who is physically uncircumcised but keeps the law will condemn you who have the written code and circumcision but break the law. 28 For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. 29 But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.



# 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. Have you ever walked out onto a frozen lake before? Have you ever fallen through the ice?
2. What arguments did Paul use to dismantle the Jewish believers' overconfidence in their right standing with God? How have you seen people you know use similar arguments?
3. Why is the advice, "just follow your heart" not great advice? How would Paul have responded to this advice?
4. How have you relied on your learning or your labels to prop yourself up?
5. "The discovery of weakness is a tremendous gift to the follower of Jesus." When has this proven true for you?
6. How have you responded to the challenge to receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your life?

# DEEPER IN THE WORD

[thecrosspointchurch.ca](http://thecrosspointchurch.ca)



# DEEPER IN THE WORD, PT. 1

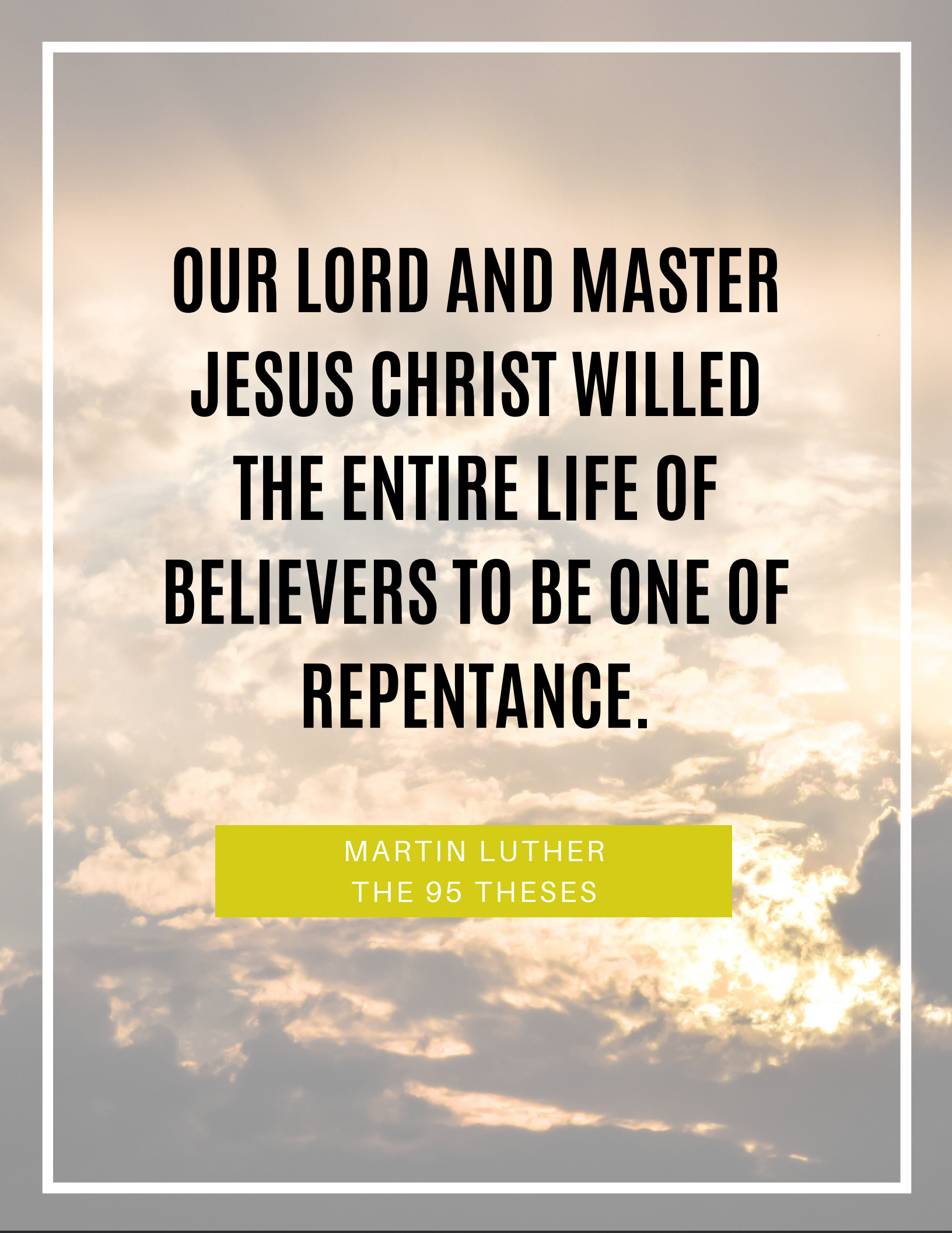
## ROMANS 2:12-29

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

In these verses, when Paul speaks about the "law" he is referring to the Torah. This was the Law given to Israel at Mount Sinai, which showed them how to live faithfully within the covenant.

1. In verse 12, who are those who have "sinned without the Law" and who are those "under the Law?" How will they be judged differently?
2. At first glance, Paul *seems* to be saying in verses 12-14 that the Gentiles can be justified for their obedience. These verses need to be understood in their context. How does the larger context of verses 15-29 shed light on what Paul is saying? See also Romans 3:23 for Paul's summary statement of everything he has written up to that point.
3. How will Gentiles be held accountable since they do not have the Law (verses 14-16)?
4. In verse 15 Paul says that the "work of the law" is written on Gentiles' hearts. How is this different than the actual Law (Torah) being written on their hearts?
5. Why does Paul tell the Jewish believers that they should not rely on the Law to save them (verses 17-23)?
6. In verse 24, Paul is quoting from Isaiah 52:5 and echoing Ezekiel 36:20. He is repeating a common critique of Israel - that they had failed at their job of being a light to the nations (Isaiah 42:6). How does this reinforce Paul's admonition to the Jewish believers that they shouldn't rely on the Law?
7. For the Jews, circumcision was the sign of their covenant with the Lord. In verses 25-29, what value does circumcision have apart from keeping the Law? What does Paul say is true circumcision?
8. What does Paul mean when he says "circumcision is a matter of the heart, but the Spirit, not by the letter." Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 and Jeremiah 31:31-34. What does God promise in these verses?





**OUR LORD AND MASTER  
JESUS CHRIST WILLED  
THE ENTIRE LIFE OF  
BELIEVERS TO BE ONE OF  
REPENTANCE.**

MARTIN LUTHER  
THE 95 THESES



# 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](#).

# 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?