

The Unveiling

righteousness,
redemption,
and hope
in Romans

HOME GROUP STUDY
Week 6



"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.

The gospel declares that no matter how dutiful or prayerful we are, we can't save ourselves. What Jesus did was sufficient...The hookers and swindlers enter before us because they know they cannot save themselves, that they cannot make themselves presentable or lovable. They risked everything on Jesus and, knowing they didn't have it all together, were not too proud to accept the handout of amazing grace.

BRENNAN MANNING
THE RAGAMUFFIN GOSPEL

CORE TEXT

ROMANS 3:21-31 (ESV)

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

27 Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. 29 Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30 since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. 31 Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.



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. As a group, come up with a list of the different ways that people boast. What do you think can motivate or drive boasting?
2. The Gentiles wanted to follow Christ WITHOUT the Law while the Jews wanted everyone to follow Christ WITHIN the Law. What did Paul mean when he said that God's righteousness has been manifested APART from the Law?
3. "The further we walk away from God and who we were designed to be, the further we walk away from glory." What is the relationship between sin and falling short of God's glory?
4. Explain the meaning of justification, redemption, and propitiation. How are they different? Connected? How did it feel for you to declare these truths for yourself during the message?
5. "The believer in Christ understands that all of life is grace...therefore, there is no boasting." In light of 1 Corinthians 4:7, can we take any credit for our accomplishments?
6. Rob talked about two antidotes for boasting: humility and gratitude. How have these virtues been growing in your life? What are some practical ways to develop them?

**IF PEOPLE IN OUR CHURCHES GRADUATE
FROM THE GOSPEL, THEY ARE NOT
ADVANCING TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY BUT
RATHER TO LIFELESS RELIGION,
MORALISTIC SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS, OR
PERFORMANCE-BASED FAITH
INACCURATELY CALLED CHRISTIAN. ONLY
JESUS HAS THE POWER TO MELT OUR
HEARTS; THUS THERE IS NO
TRANSFORMATION APART FROM THE
TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL.**

GEIGER, KELLEY, AND NATION
TRANSFORMATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

DEEPER IN THE WORD

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DEEPER IN THE WORD, PT. 1

ROMANS 3:21-31

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

NOTE: In these verses, Paul speaks about the "righteousness of God" which is a phrase packed with meaning. It points to God's faithfulness in keeping his promises. It also means that he is the just judge who will judge all people fairly and will ultimately right all wrongs - he will fix everything.

1. How does it say God's righteousness is "manifested" or "shown" in verses 21-26?
2. How can Paul say that God's righteousness is manifested "apart from the law?" Compare verses 21 and 27-28. Does this mean that the Law was a mistake or failure (see verses 21, 31)?
3. Verse 23 is a good summary statement of Romans 1:18-3:20. What is God's verdict over all of humanity?
4. God's solution to the problem appears in the very next verse. To be justified is a legal term that means "to be in right standing before God." What does it mean that justification is "by his grace as a gift?" Compare this with Ephesians 2:8-10.
5. Redemption means "to be set free at a cost." Where does it say our freedom comes from in verse 24? How might the story of the Passover in Exodus 12 shed more light on the meaning of this word? What have we been set free from (See Romans 6:6)?
6. In verse 25, it also says that God put forward Jesus as a "propitiation by his blood." Propitiation means "to satisfy God's wrath." Paul is pointing to the Day of Atonement where the High Priest sprinkled the blood of a sacrificial goat on the mercy seat, which was located above the altar, in the Most Holy Place. The blood covered the sins of Israel in order to satisfy God's wrath. What does this teach us about Jesus as our propitiation "by his blood?" For further reading, see Leviticus 16:15-16 and 17:11.

DEEPER IN THE WORD, PT. 2

ROMANS 3:21-31

8. How is Jesus both "just and the justifier" of those who put their faith in him (v.26)?
9. Why do you think Paul needs to address the issue of boasting in verse 27? See also Romans 2:17 and 2:23.
10. What point is Paul making in verse 30 when he says, "since God is one?"
11. How does justification by faith "uphold the law" (see verses 27 and 30)?



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?