

ROMANS

PRAY

READ THE TEXT

Read the entire book before the study

Read Romans in one sitting primarily for comprehension. Refrain from excessive note-taking during this initial reading of the text.

Read repetitively throughout the study

As you study smaller movements within the book, read the passage multiple times. The more familiar it is to you, the easier it will be to study the text.

ESTABLISH THE FRAMEWORK

Context

- Literary: How is this connected to what was written before and/or after this passage?
- Historical: Does the author introduce any people, places, and/or events as you read? Who is the audience? What was happening during that time period?
- Biblical: What elements of creation, fall/rebellion, redemption, or restoration do you see in this passage? Where does it fit within the storyline of the Bible?

Theme(s)

- Trace themes that develop throughout the book. Draw a bracket around verses that point to each theme.
- What repeated words or ideas do you see throughout the text? Circle or draw a box around repeated words.
- What's the point of what you just read? How does it point to the main themes of the book? Write out a summary in your Scripture journal.

Purpose

- Keep in mind the passage in light of the whole book.
- Why was this section written? What was the author's original intent in writing this text?

TRACE THEMES THROUGHOUT YOUR STUDY

Seeing themes develop in a book helps you to see what the author is emphasizing in a particular passage. You can annotate themes in a number of ways: draw a bracket around each theme using a different colored pencil, draw a box around repeated words, phrases, or concepts, make notes on the blank pages of your Scripture journal, etc.

Themes in Romans

- Call to unity amongst Jewish and Gentile Christians
- The Gospel rightly understood and applied
- Partnership in Paul's future mission work

Ask:

What is the author trying to communicate in this passage? What's the main point? How does this verse/passage connect to the main themes of the book?

GO DEEPER

- Read the text thinking about how the original audience would have understood this text.
- Define words using a Bible dictionary.
- Look up cross-references, especially related to key words or themes, using the Step Bible app or Blue Letter Bible.
- Read the same verse in 1 or 2 other translations to understand the meaning of a verse.

REFLECT AND RESPOND

The goal is to let the truths of God's Word transform your heart. Consider these questions and pray that the Holy Spirit would convict and guide you.

What do we learn about *God*?

What do we learn about *relating to God*?

What do we learn about *people*?

What do we learn about *relating to people*?

What does God want me to *think/understand*?

What does God want me to *believe*?

What does God want me to *desire*?

What does God want me to *do*?