

The Unveiling

righteousness,
redemption,
and hope
in Romans

HOME GROUP STUDY
Week 13



"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 7:1-25 (ESV)

Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? 2 For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. 3

Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

4 Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. 5 For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. 6 But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

7 What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” 8 But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. 9 I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. 10 The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. 11 For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. 12 So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

CORE TEXT

ROMANS 7:1-25 (ESV)

13 Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. 15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. 17 So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.



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. Paul was writing to a church in conflict. What kinds of conflicts do we hear about in the church today?
2. How have you understood Romans 7 in the past? How did this weekend's message help reframe your understanding of this passage?
3. What did you discover about the "I" chart in verses 7-13? Did you find this interesting or frustrating? Why do you think Paul would use a literary device like *prosopopoeia*?
4. Why do you think the Jewish Christians in Rome would have been uncomfortable with some of the things Paul was saying about the Jewish Law?
5. If Paul was writing an autobiographical account of his time before meeting Christ (while still under the Law), does that mean we can't take something away from what he wrote in verses 15-20?
6. How might each of you continue to "draw the circle bigger" to include people who are far from God and in need? How might your Home Group respond to this call?
7. Spend some time praising God for his mercy and rescue. Pray for those who need to have their hands placed on the latch of the door to the kingdom.

**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

thecrosspointchurch.ca



DEEPER IN THE WORD

ROMANS 7:1-25

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

1. What do you think is the big idea of Romans 7:1-25?
2. To understand Romans 7 it is important to remember that when Paul refers to the Law, he means the Torah, the Law of Moses. He is not referring to God's universal moral law. With this in mind, how does he see the Law as part of the problem for Israel rather than the solution in verses 1-11?
3. In verses 1-6 Paul draws a parallel between the old covenant (Law) and marriage. What is the point he is trying to make?
4. Writers in the ancient world often wrote in the first person when they wanted to make a more general point, rather than a personal point. Some used a rhetorical device known as prosopopoeia. Here the writer would assume the role of another character. Many biblical authors believe that Paul is referring to Adam (and consequently those in Adam) in verses 7-13. Can you see any parallels to Adam's story in these verses?
5. In what way can the law be seen as holy, good, and upright (verse 12) while also producing death at the same time?
6. Many people have struggled to determine which period of Paul's life is being described in verses 14-25. Was it while he was under the Law before he received Christ (thus representing Israel), or was it while he was a believer in Christ writing Romans (thus representing Christians)? Look closely at the text and try to discover clues for both sides of this argument. Which seems most likely given the overall point Paul is trying to make in Romans 7?
7. Why would God want sin to "become sinful beyond measure" in verse 13?
8. How is Jesus the solution for the problem of Israel? What does this reveal about God's character and purposes?



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?