

ROM. 1:1-26, 2:1-5, 3:9-26, 5:6-21 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL? - ([SERMON MP3](#))

What is the Gospel? The Gospel is the “Good News” that God has made a way for sinful man to turn from their sin and enjoy a relationship with Him through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The essential elements of the Gospel are: God, Man, Christ, and Response. As you have time this week, read the following passages: Romans 1:1-4, 1:8-26, 2:1-5, 3:9-26, 5:6-21. Then connect specific verses with the corresponding essential element of the Gospel. This will help you grow in your understanding of the Gospel and your ability to share the Gospel with others.

God – I am accountable to the one who made me. What a person knows and believes about God has a direct impact on every area of their life. Romans 1:18-25 contains at 6 different descriptions/attributes of God. Find them and meditate on why the attributes of God in this passage are so foundational to properly understand the Gospel. According to Romans 1:21,28; 1:22,25; Ps. 14:1 what are 3 unrighteous ways to think about God and His attributes?

☼ *If you know God, describe in 30 seconds or less how you came to know Him?*

☼ *Have you ever had a season of life where you were tempted to stop believing in God? When was that? What were the circumstances? What helped you to think truth about God?*

☼ *Why is it good for the Christian to meditate on God as the Creator?*

☼ *What are some practical ways that you pursue to have a deeper understanding of the attributes of God?*

☼ *Why is God just in judging the unrighteous? (Romans 1:18) What should be the Christians response to thinking about the wrath of God being poured out on the unrighteous?*

Man – I have a sin problem for I have rebelled against my creator. God is the creator. Therefore He owns and rules over all. When I make a choice to live contrary to His Word I am declaring my sinful state. Do you think you need to see yourself as a sinner before you can become a Christian? Paul would say yes, and that’s why Romans begins with such a heavy discussion of sin. He would say, “Why would you need a Savior unless you were lost?”

☼ *What are some of the ways that Paul describes the sinfulness of mankind in Romans 3:10-18,23? Sometimes we are tempted to think that we are not that bad. What is the purpose of the law according to Romans 3:19?*

☼ *Discuss how mankind’s sin problem is more than just wrong outward behavior. Explain how someone could keep an external standard of the law and still sin. Refer to Matthew 5:20-28 if needed.*

☼ *Thinking about sin, what specific temptations have you been struggling with? Do you have a fellow Christian that you could request prayer or accountability from?*

| Name | Prayer Need |
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Christ – God has a solution for me through the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God is Righteous. That means that He is holy and absolutely just in all His decisions. Mankind is unrighteous. That means that no matter how hard we try we will never measure up to the standard of God’s righteousness. Romans 3:20 communicates that we will never be made righteous by keeping the law. Why? Mankind can only have a relationship with God through the righteousness of Jesus Christ. (Romans 3:22) When did Jesus take our unrighteousness and give us His righteousness? (2 Corinthians 5:21)

- ☀ *Do you understand the definition of righteousness? What about the connection between righteousness and being justified? Please discuss as a group.*

- ☀ *Discuss and explain the following phrases from Romans 3:24-25.*
 - *And are **justified** by his grace as a gift*

 - *Through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus*

 - *Whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood*

- ☀ *How does rehearsing the Gospel cause the Christian to live differently?*

- ☀ *What are some specific ways that you can work to understand the work of Christ better? What are some specific ways that you could help others to understand the work of Christ better?*

Response – My responsibility is to repent of sin and trust in Christ alone. “The gospel call is important also because through it God addresses us in the fullness of our humanity. He does not save us “automatically” without seeking for a response from us as whole persons. Rather, he addresses the gospel call to our intellects, our emotions, and our will. He speaks to our intellects by explaining the facts of salvation in His Word. He speaks to our emotions by issuing a heartfelt personal invitation to respond. He speaks to our will by asking us to hear his invitation and respond willingly in repentance and faith – to decide to turn from our sins and receive Christ as Savior and rest our hearts in Him for salvation.” Wayne Grudem

- ☀ *Has your heart been changed by personally experiencing God’s grace in Christ’s death and resurrection on your behalf? Would you like to get with someone to talk about this later?*

- ☀ *What are some reasons why some people could hear the truth of the Gospel and still not respond in faith and repentance?*

- ☀ *What does it mean to repent from sin? Discuss how repentance and faith are not opposed to one another. What does it mean to have faith in Christ alone? What are some items that people try to add to their faith for salvation from sin?*

- ☀ *As a Christian, do you view your daily life as not your own, but belonging to Jesus to serve Him? Read Romans 1:1.” What is one way this week that you could have a life that is more set apart for the Gospel?*

- ☀ *Is the good news from God and about God increasingly good news to me? News that I long to share with others? Who is one person that I am praying would respond correctly to the Gospel?*