

**STUDYING THE BOOK OF ROMANS**  
**IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

**Lesson 1 - Introduction - [Romans 1:1-7](#)**

Read the following verses in the Last Days Bible or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

## Paul's Letter to the Romans

**1** Greetings, from Paul, a slave-servant\* of Jesus Christ, who called me to be His apostle, taking me away from all other pursuits to broadcast God's Great News—

*Romans 1:1 – “A slave-servant\*” The Greek word *doulos* means *slave* or *bond-servant*. This word suggests *subjection without the idea of bondage*.*

**2** the same Great News that God had long ago promised in the Holy Writings through His prophets.

**3** And the Great News is about God's incomparable Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. He was born as a human being into the royal line of King David.

**4** That He was indeed the Son of God was clearly proven by His miraculous power, by the perfectly sinless life He lived through the Spirit of holiness, and by the fact that God raised Him from the dead.

**5** Yes, it was Christ who gave me the undeserved privilege of representing Him as His messenger of this Great News, calling people in every nation to believe in and obey Him.

**6** You in Rome are also included among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

**7** I am writing this to all of you there, because you are all dearly loved by God, and called to be fully devoted to Him, that is, called to be His saints. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ grant you undeserved favor and give you great peace of mind and heart.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Lesson 1 - Introduction - [Romans 1:1-7](#)**

1. How did Paul introduce and identify himself to the Romans? ([1:1](#))
2. What special calling on his life did Paul feel? ([1:1](#))

3. In what ways has God revealed His gospel to people? ([1:2-4](#))
4. Who is the focus of God's gospel? ([1:2-4](#))
5. What credentials does Jesus have to confirm His claim as Son of God? ([1:3-4](#))
6. What did Paul and others receive as a calling for their lives? ([1:5](#))
7. Who were the new group of people being exposed to the gospel message? ([1:5](#))
8. What were the Gentiles and all people being called to believe? ([1:5](#))
9. How did Paul describe the people who were receiving this letter? ([1:6](#))
10. To whom was this letter written? ([1:7](#))
11. What kind of greeting did Paul send to his audience? ([1:7](#))

## **Lesson 2 - Paul's Longing to Visit Rome - [Romans 1:8-17](#)**

### ***Paul's Burning Desire To Visit Rome***

<sup>8</sup>Let me say first of all, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for every one of you, because people everywhere throughout the world are talking about your genuine faith.

<sup>9</sup>And God, whom I serve with everything that's in me by preaching the Great News about His Son, is my witness that I continually talk to Him about you in my prayers,

<sup>10</sup>always pleading that somehow He will finally clear the way for me to visit you, if He is willing.

<sup>11</sup>I want so very much to see you, in order to impart unto you some spiritual gift that will help you to become even more firmly grounded in the faith.

<sup>12</sup>That is, that through each other's faith—both yours and mine—we can encourage each other as we spend time together.

<sup>13</sup>Now I don't want you to be unaware, my brothers and sisters, that I had often planned to visit you, but I was hindered until now. I've wanted so much to enjoy some results from working among you also, just as I've experienced among the other Gentiles.

<sup>14</sup>I am under obligation to reach out to all people, both to the cultured Greeks and the uncivilized, to the educated and the uneducated.

<sup>15</sup>So now, with all that's in me, I'm ready and eager to preach the Great News to you in Rome as well.

### ***The Powerful Great News***

<sup>16</sup>Because in no way am I ashamed of the Great News that Christ came to bring us and be to us! In fact, that amazing news is God's powerful way of saving everyone who believes.\* This is especially true for the Jew, but also for everyone else.

**Romans 1:16 – “Everyone who believes.\*” A present tense in Greek that stresses not a one-time event but an ongoing condition.**

<sup>17</sup>Because the Great News reveals how God is now able, in a just and righteous way, to offer us forgiveness for our sins. All that God does depends upon people trusting Him throughout, from beginning to end. As the Scripture states, “A man in right standing with God lives by faith” (Habakkuk 2:4)

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Lesson 2 - Paul's Longing to Visit Rome - [Romans 1:8-17](#)**

12. For what was the church at Rome well-known? ([1:8](#))
13. How did Paul describe his commitment to God? ([1:9](#))
14. What kind of concern did Paul have for his audience? ([1:9-10](#))
15. What happened to Paul's plans to visit the church in Rome? ([1:10-13](#))
16. What did Paul want to give the Romans when he visited? ([1:11-12](#))
17. Who would benefit from Paul's visit? ([1:12](#))
18. To whom had God called Paul to communicate the gospel? ([1:14-15](#))
19. How did Paul feel about what others thought about him and his message? ([1:16](#))
20. To whom does God grant salvation? ([1:16](#))
21. How does a person become righteous? ([1:17](#))

### Lesson 3 - God's Wrath Against Ungodliness - [Romans 1:18-32](#)

#### *The Guilt of Mankind*

<sup>18</sup>On the other hand, God is revealing His fierce anger from Heaven against all who oppose what is right, and live in sin. And in their sinfulness they continually try to suppress the truth,

<sup>19</sup>in spite of the fact that what is clearly plain to understand about God is right there in their hearts and consciences. In fact, God is the One who put the evidence there in the first place.

<sup>20</sup>Because God's invisible qualities—His great everlasting power and all the other things that prove that God does indeed exist—have been clearly seen ever since He created the world. They are understood by the things God has made! So sinners everywhere are without any excuse.

<sup>21</sup>But even though they knew about God, they didn't honor and glorify Him as God, nor were they thankful. But they became foolish in their speculations. Then their irresponsible hearts and minds became darkened.

<sup>22</sup>Even though they claimed to be wise, they became utter fools instead.

<sup>23</sup>Instead of worshiping, and rejoicing in our glorious and ever-living God, they carved images made to look like mortal man, birds, animals, and crawling creatures, *and worshiped them*.

<sup>24</sup>So, because of their inflexible determination to do only what they themselves wanted to do, God stopped holding them back and abandoned them to the filthy desires of their hearts, allowing them to dishonor and shamefully degrade their bodies among themselves.

<sup>25</sup>So they threw overboard the truth about God in exchange for the lie, and worshiped and served created things instead of the Creator, who is to be praised forever! And may He indeed ever be praised.

<sup>26</sup>That's why God finally gave them over to freely indulge their shameful passions. Then even their females perverted the natural use of their bodies and instead indulged in sex with each other.

<sup>27</sup>The males also abandoned natural sexual relations with females and burned with passion for each other. Males committed filthy acts with other males, and as a result they brought upon themselves the continuing punishment they so justly deserved for such filthy perversion.

<sup>28</sup>And because they didn't want to continue knowing what they so definitely knew about God, God gave them over to a morally corrupt mind. The result was that they continued indulging in those acts that should never be indulged in.

<sup>29</sup>Their lives have become filled beyond capacity with all kinds of wicked thoughts and actions—sexual immorality, desire for what belongs to others, envy, desire to harm others, quarrels and fights, even murder, lies, and malicious hatred.

<sup>30</sup>They gossip and speak evil of one another. They hate God. They are violent, proud, arrogant, and boastful. And they're always thinking up new ways of sinning, and added to that, they're disobedient to their parents.

<sup>31</sup>They have no conscience, so they can't be trusted. They don't even love their own family members. They are unforgiving and unmerciful.

<sup>32</sup>Even though they know very well that God will do the right thing and fearfully punish all who indulge in such sinning, and that their way of life deserves God's death penalty, they not only continue in their sins, but they also applaud and cheer others who continue in the same sins.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### Lesson 3 - God's Wrath Against Ungodliness - [Romans 1:18-32](#)

22. What is God's response to the people who ignore and disobey Him? ([1:18](#))
23. How does God reveal Himself to people? ([1:19-20](#))
24. What makes all people accountable to God? ([1:20](#))
25. What is the primary problem people have in their relationship with God? ([1:21](#))
26. What happens to the hearts and minds of people who reject God? ([1:21-22](#))
27. When people deny God, what do they often put in His place? ([1:21-23](#))
28. How does God respond to people who ignore and deny Him? ([1:24](#), [26](#))
29. How are attitudes toward sexuality affected when a person denies God? ([1:24](#), [26-27](#))
30. What lie do people naturally believe by denying the truth? ([1:25](#))
31. When thoughts of God are pushed out, what evil attitudes and actions replace them? ([1:28-31](#))
32. Instead of fearing God, what attitude do people naturally have toward Him? ([1:32](#))
33. What examples can you list of how we worship created things rather than the Creator?

