

PBF CONNECT GROUP STUDY GUIDE

For the week of Feb. 11-17

Romans: An Overview of Paul's Gospel

Synopsis: All humans are sinners, but God provides salvation and reconciliation to God through Christ in his life of obedience, his death and resurrection. Justification is ours by faith alone, and we are freed from the power of sin and the law, and given the Holy Spirit to live and work within us. This gospel is the foundation for how Christians relate to one another and the world.

Into the Bible

1. Why do you think Paul started the body of this epistle with the bad news instead of the good? Do you think we should begin with the bad news when sharing the gospel?
2. What does Paul mean by saying three times in chapter 1 that "God gave them up" to sin (1:24, 26, 28)? How does this relate to judgment?
3. Romans 6:7 says, "For one who has died has been set free from sin." How can it be said that the believer has died?

4. In the same verse, in what sense has the believer been set free from sin?
5. Do you think Paul is talking in chapter 7 about his life before Christ, or his life as a Christian? Why? What, if any, difference does your answer to that question make?

Application

6. What verses in Romans 8 do you find the most encouraging, and why?
7. In 16:25, Paul says God is able to strengthen us "according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ." How can we be strengthened according to the gospel and the preaching of Christ?
8. What questions does Romans raise for you that you would like to see answered in the course of this series?