

WEEK 16 | ROMANS 8:18-30

ROMANS | THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S POWER

OTHER HELPFUL PASSAGES.

The following passages may be helpful to you as you consider this text.

- Ephesians 1:3-14
- 2 Timothy 1:8-10
- Philippians 3:20-21

THEMES.

The overarching theme of Romans is the gospel—salvation through Jesus Christ. That is important to remember and keep in front of your group, because the letter is a theological masterpiece. But as with any work of art, each brush stroke's true beauty is best seen when the piece as a whole is realized. To that end, we will deal with many sub-themes, but remember that each one weaves together to give the "fullest, plainest and grandest statement of the gospel in the New Testament."¹

1. While we remain here, our sin nature will continue to plague us, but we don't battle alone. It's ruling power has been broken, and we are promised full and final deliverance eternally through Jesus Christ.
2. All who place their faith in Jesus have been adopted as sons of God and partake in his heavenly blessings.
3. Our Christian hope is solidly grounded on the unwavering love of God.²

QUESTIONS.

Feel free use any, all, or none of these questions as you facilitate your group. Their purpose is to be an aid to you as you consider how to teach the implications of the week's Scriptures.

1. Did the Holy Spirit use last week's passage or sermon to convict, challenge, or encourage you in any way? Did he use it to confirm or answer a prayer in any way? If you're willing, share with the group.
2. Has "hope" ever helped carry you through a time of pain/struggle in your life? If you're willing, share that.
3. Is there a reason why you're "groaning" today? If you're willing, share with the group.
4. Read vv. 26-27. How does the Holy Spirit help us in our weakness? How does the picture of the Holy Spirit interceding give you confidence when you struggle with prayer?³
5. Read v. 28. How does this verse encourage you today? Have you ever found this to be a difficult verse to reconcile with the difficulties in your life? Why or why not?
6. How has looking at "chain of salvation" found in vv. 29-30 encouraged/challenged you? How does your hope of glory affect your life today?

PRAY TO CLOSE.

Consider interceding for each other.

1. If some in the group shared their pains or hopes, pray for these.
2. Ask for the group to pray for each other throughout the week.

¹ John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Romans: God's good news for the world*. (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994), 19.

² *Ibid.*, 246.

³ Michael Kruger, *Study Romans*, The Gospel Coalition., Retrieved from <https://cdn.rts.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Sermon-Notes-Romans-L23.pdf>.