

Romans 1:1-17

The Gospel: God's power to save



Think about and discuss one or two questions from each section.

The text – Romans 1:1-17

1. Read Romans 1:1-17. Paul is writing about the gospel. What are the main characteristics of the gospel according to 1:2-6?
2. When Paul is writing this letter (about AD57), he has not been to Rome and does not know many of the Christians meeting in the house churches there. Why does he want to visit Rome according to his words in 1:8-15?
3. The words of Romans 1:16-17 present Paul's overriding concern in this letter. Read them carefully. Discuss what Paul means by "the righteousness of God".
4. Again, with reference to Romans 1:17, discuss what Paul means by the words "the righteous will live by faith".

The Scriptures – Romans 1:1-17 as a portion of the Scriptures

5. In Romans 1:3, Paul acknowledges that Paul is a "descendant of David". Jesus is often referred to as the son of David (see for example, Matthew 1:1, 9:27; Mark 10:46-47; Luke 20:41). Why is this important?
6. God is righteous! This is well established throughout the Old Testament Scriptures. Read Psalm 36:5-9 and Isaiah 9:6-7. What does it mean that God is righteous?
7. In Romans 1:17 Paul quotes Habakkuk 2:4. Read and discuss the text in Habakkuk. Discuss its meaning.

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to Romans 1:1-17 as a portion of the Scriptures

8. In this passage, Paul speaks of God's people as "loved", "called to be holy" (1:7) and "righteous" (1:17). That is who we are as we trust Christ. What does this mean to you? How does it impact the way you live?
9. How has this passage of Scripture encouraged or challenged you? How can we pray for you as you seek to live as a disciple of Jesus?

