

October 12-13, 2024

Growth Group Lesson

Title: Romans: The Power of God, Pt 1: “The Power of God for Salvation and Strength” – Romans 1:1-17

Big Idea: Believe and Share the Gospel through spiritual gifts, because it is the power of God for salvation and strength!

Read Romans 1:1-17.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. The Gospel is the Power of God for Salvation!

Read Romans 1:1 again. What do you know about the apostle Paul’s background? How does this strengthen your faith in his belief that Jesus is alive and commissioned him?

Jump ahead to Romans 1:16 and read it again. What are some ways that our culture tries to shame people for believing or sharing the Gospel today?

What is the reason Paul gives for why we should not be ashamed of the Gospel?

What do all people need to be saved from? (look to Romans 1:18, 2:5, and 2:8 for help answering).

Romans 6:23 says the wages of sin is death, and Revelation 21:8 says this includes the second death, which is separation from God forever in hell. How does Jesus save us from both physical and spiritual death? (see Romans 5:6 and 5:8).

Paul says that salvation is to the Jew first and then to the Greek. In what ways do Jews have priority over Gentiles when it comes to salvation (see Romans 3:3 for one answer)? In what ways do they not have priority (see Romans 3:9 for one answer).

According to Romans 1:16, how are both Jews and Gentiles saved?

What do you think it means to believe, and keep on believing, the Gospel?

2. The Gospel is the Power of God for Strength!

Read Romans 1:17. The righteousness of God is FROM FAITH. This means it is received by faith alone. Jesus takes our sin, and we receive His righteousness (see 2 Cor. 5:21). But he also says it is FOR faith. What do you think this means?

Faith is what is required to be saved, and the Gospel gives the very thing it requires! When we receive the Gospel, Jesus carries us, fills us with His Spirit, and empowers us to keep believing! It is FROM faith, FOR faith! How does it encourage and strengthen you to know that God Himself will keep you believing until the end if you believe the Gospel?

3. The Gospel was PLANNED, ACCOMPLISHED, and APPLIED!

Read Romans 1:2-7. What do you see in these verses about how God planned, accomplished, and applied salvation to us? How does this encourage and strengthen you?

4. The Gospel is our DEBT to others!

Read Romans 1:8-15 again. Focus on verse 14 first. How does the Gospel make us debtors to other people?

Grace is given to be shared. It is the very nature of grace that it overflows with grace to others. This is the obligation or the debt of grace. According to verse 11, how do we share this grace with others?

According to other passages of Scripture (like 1 Cor. 12 and Rom. 12), spiritual gifts (or “grace given by the Holy Spirit”) can take the form of supernaturally empowered words, actions, or prayers. What are some examples of how God can empower our words, actions, or prayers to strengthen and encourage the faith of others?

Read 1 Corinthians 14:1. How does this verse help you understand our obligation to others because of the Gospel? What might this look like in everyday life?

“Next Steps” Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

- With God:
 - Practice BELIEVING the Gospel of God for salvation and strength in the everyday moments of life.
 - The power of the Gospel for relationships
 - The power of the Gospel for work
 - The power of the Gospel for temptation
- With Others:
 - Practice SHARING the Gospel of God by receiving spiritual gifts for your words, actions, and prayers to love, strengthen, and encourage other believers.
- On Mission:
 - Practice SHARING the Gospel of God by receiving spiritual gifts for your words, actions, and prayers to love and save unbelievers.