



Installation Romans 1 Small Group Plan

What is the “gospel?”

Some might say it is a system of doctrines and beliefs, or more broadly, the Bible. Others might say it is a particular group of believers or their “plan of salvation.” But, what does scripture tell us? How does it actually use the term “gospel?” Here are a few observations:

1. We have four New Testament books called “gospels.”
They all tell the story Jesus.
2. In Paul’s last letter to Timothy he wrote:

*Remember Jesus Christ,
raised from the dead, descended from David.
This is my gospel.
— 2 Timothy 2:8 —*

3. In our text today, Paul describes “the gospel of God... regarding his Son.” (v. 1-2)

OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- What did you grow up hearing about “the gospel?”
- How/when did it become clear to you that Jesus was the gospel?

LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

ROMANS 1:1-7

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God — ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. ⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. ⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE BEGINNING OF THE GOSPEL > GOD

Verse 1

“set apart for the gospel of God”

- What/how/why did God foresee and create the gospel?

THE CONFIRMATION OF THE GOSPEL > SCRIPTURE

Verse 2

“the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures”

- How did God lay the groundwork for the gospel?

THE SUBSTANCE OF THE GOSPEL > JESUS

Verse 3-4

“regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.”

- Why is the gospel presented in a person rather than with a collection of rules?

THE RANGE OF THE GOSPEL > WORLD

Verse 5-6

“Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.”

- If the scope is the entire world, why did God begin with one family and one nation?

THE GOAL OF THE GOSPEL > HOLINESS

Verse 7

“To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.”

- Describe God's plan to make us holy.

USE IT / APPLY IT ...

Philippians 2:5-8

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! —

Hebrews 2:14

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity.

Hebrews 2:17

He had to be made like his brothers in every way.

- Why is it “good news” (gospel) for God to become a person?
- How does this change our view of God?
- How does it give his victory more clarity?
- How can this group support you in prayer this week?