

# WEEK 10 | ROMANS 5:12-21

## ROMANS | THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S POWER

### OTHER HELPFUL PASSAGES.

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

- Genesis 3:1-24 – Adam and Eve's sin.
- John 1:1-18 - The grace of new life through Jesus Christ, God in the flesh.

### 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.”<sup>1</sup>

1. Due to Adam's sin, all men and women are born with an inherited nature, actively oppose God, and need salvation. (Rom. 5:12-21; Ps. 51:5; John 3:1-15; Rom. 5:12-14; Eph. 2:1-3)
2. Righteousness is not attained by human action or works of the law; justification is God's free gift of grace received by faith in Jesus. (Rom. 5:1-2; Gen. 15:1-6; Acts 16:30-31; Rom. 5:17-19; Eph. 2:4-9; Phil 3:8-11; Titus 3:4-7)
3. God's love for humanity is clearly demonstrated in Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross. (Rom. 5:8; John 3:16; John 13:1; John 15:12-13; Galatians 2:20; 1 John 3:16)

### 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. Repeated words or phrases indicate their importance. What words and phrases are repeated throughout Romans 5:12-21? Take time to reflect on the repeated phrases and their significance.

*Hint:* Look especially closely at these:

- *Sin/Trespas* (occurs 15x)
  - *Free Gift* (occurs 5x)
  - *Reign* (occurs 5x)
  - *Righteous/Righteousness* (occurs 4x)
  - *Death* (occurs 5x)
  - *Life* (occurs 3x)
3. Romans 5:12 is an important verse when considering the doctrine of *original sin*, which teaches that “every human being is born (a) guilty of Adam's sin, and (b) corrupted by Adam's sin.”<sup>2</sup> How have you experienced the evidence of sin's corruption in your own life or in the world? What is it like to experience the weight of guilt over your sin?

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Michael Kruger, *Study Romans*, The Gospel Coalition., Retrieved from <https://cdn.rts.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Sermon-Notes-Romans-L15.pdf>.

4. Paul refers to “free gift” 5x in verses 15-17. What is the free gift?
5. Paul says the free gift is the result of Jesus’ abounding grace. How does that hit you? Are you a moralist at heart, still striving to earn the favor of God already given to you? Or are you able to rest in God’s acceptance of you?
6. According to Romans 5:18-19, Jesus didn’t just die for you; he lived for you too! Why is it good news that God deals with you through a representative? How does this affect your confidence in your salvation?
7. Christ’s reign leads to eternal life for all who believe. How has the sweetness of that promise impacted your life here on earth?

**PRAY TO CLOSE.**