

St Peter's Anglican Church, Wanneroo

Growth Group Study Guide

Term 2, 2020

The Letter to the Romans—Part Two

Sunday	Sermon Text	Growth Group Passage	Sermon Title
3 May	9:1—18	9:1—33	God's choice
10 May	10:1—15	10:1—21	Salvation
17 May	11:11—32	11:1—36	Grafted into God's people
24 May	12:1—8	12:1—21	Transformed thinking
7 June	13:1—14	13:1—14	Submission
14 June	14:1—18	14:1—15:13	Respect
21 June	15:14—33	15:14—16:27	Paul's shared ministry

Study 9:

Read Romans 9:1 - 33.

1. Why is Paul heart so heavy? (v. 1 – 5)
2. What advantages did the Jews have?
3. Why might some consider that God's Word had failed? Why is this not the case? (v. 6 ff) What distinction is Paul drawing?
4. How did God intervene?
5. If God influenced events, why isn't God unjust in judging? (v. 14 ff)
6. How do you hold God's sovereignty (his right to choose), and his

7. What does Paul need prayer for?

8. How can we partner others who go to take the Gospel?

Read Romans 16:

9. Who is Phoebe? Why does Paul mention her?
10. Who else does Paul mention? What do we learn about them?
11. What warning does Paul give? How do they contrast with those he mentioned before?
12. What teaching is contained in the final benediction v25 to 27?
13. What have you found most helpful in Romans?

Study 15:

Read Romans 15:14 - 33:

1. What is Paul's opinion of the Roman Christians?
2. How does Paul describe his ministry?
3. How does Paul's commissioned ministry influence what he does and say?
4. Why only now can Paul see himself coming to Rome? What has been achieved?
5. What does Paul now hope to do? How does he see the Roman Christians sharing in this?
6. What must Paul do first?
7. This teaching gets even more difficult in v. 19. What illustration does Paul give here?
8. What does this action of God allow to happen? (v. 24 ff)
9. How did the Jews stumble? What does this say about our responsibility?

love together?

Study 10:

1. How concerned are we for those who have not heard about Jesus?

Read Romans 10:1 – 21:

2. What is Paul's heart's desire?
3. What error did the Israelites make? How could we fall to the same error?
4. What is the difference between the righteousness from the Law and the righteousness that is by faith?
5. How does Paul explain the gospel message?

6. What principle needs to be put into practice?

7. What is the kingdom of God about and how is this relevant?

8. What could we destroy if we are not careful? What is Jesus' warning in Mark 9:42?

Read Romans 15:1 – 13:

9. What lesson can we learn from Jesus?

10. How does this lesson get applied practically to our lives?

Study 14:

Read Romans 14:1 – 12:

1. What are some of the things Christians can disagree on?
2. What are the two things focused on here?
3. What does Paul encourage us to do in these circumstances?
4. What has Jesus done and what difference does it make?

Read Romans 14:13 – 23:

5. In what ways can we put stumbling blocks in the way of other Christians?

6. How are people to respond to Jesus?
7. If people need to call on Jesus, what is required of those who already know Jesus? How did Paul put this into practice in his own life?
8. What must accompany the hearing of the message? Why?
9. How can we put into practice the lessons learnt from today's passage?

Study 11:

Chapter 11 is the conclusion of Paul's discussion of the fate of the Jewish nation. He asks two questions: "Did God reject his people?" and "Did they stumble or fall beyond recovery?"

Read Romans 11:1 – 12:

1. What is Paul's first proof that God has not rejected his chosen people? His second argument is from Jewish history. The story is found in 1Kings 19:10, 14, 18. How did Elijah view the situation? What was God's reply to him? What is Paul's conclusion (v5, 6)?
2. How do people enter the kingdom of God – by race, birth, inheritance, personal faith? As nations or as individuals? The United States is considered a Christian nation by other countries. How would you respond to such a statement?
3. In verse 7, the word translated 'hardened' means 'calloused'. How does a callus develop? How sensitive to heat or pain is the skin that is calloused? What spiritual attitude does this illustrate?
4. Verses 9 & 10 draw a picture for us of men sitting at a banquet table, feasting, unaware of danger. How does this illustrate the Jewish attitude to reality and truth?

7. What debt do we owe to others? How does this fulfil the law?
8. What is the significance of the present time (v11ff)?
9. How should our behaviour be different?
10. What should we be clothed in and why? How does this relate to teaching Paul has given earlier in his letter?
11. How can this be done practically?

Study 13:

Read Romans 13:1 – 7:

1. Why can submission be difficult? What circumstances can make it easier or harder?
2. In Romans 13:1 Paul asks Christians to submit to governing authorities. Why would this have been difficult at the time Paul was writing?
3. What reason does Paul give of this submission?
4. What happens if the government is corrupt? How could Peter's teaching in 1Peter 2:18 – 21 help in our understanding here?
5. In v6 what principle does Paul apply to paying taxes?

Read Romans 13:8 – 14:

6. How does the teaching here relate back to what Paul has said in v6 & 7?

5. How will God's grace to the Gentiles affect Israel?

Read Romans 11:13 – 24:

6. How does Paul describe the effect of his own ministry to the Gentiles? What is the hope? What two metaphors does Paul use to show that the Jews are not excluded from salvation?
7. In v17 – 24, Paul further develops the analogy of the olive tree begun in v16b. Who is represented by the wild olive shoot? How is it nourished? What are the warning and encouragements contained in this passage?

Read Romans 11:25 – 36:

8. What is Israel's future hope (v26)? Through whom will this be accomplished? Describe in your own words Israel's present position, according to v28.
9. The thought of God's mercy launches Paul into a song of praise. What truths about God can you discover in this doxology?

Study 12:

Read Romans 12:1 – 8:

1. How would you define your relationship with God?
2. In what way has God shown us mercy? How does Paul want us to respond? Put this in your own words. Can you think of some practical examples?
3. What is the inherent contradiction in the phrase “living sacrifices”? Why is this pleasing to God?
4. What are the things that can influence us as people? What are we to resist? Why?
5. What can we do to help us resist? Why does this make a difference?
6. What do you think Paul is referring to when he speaks of ‘God’s will’?

7. In v3 what do you think Paul has in mind when he speaks of the grace given to him?
8. What danger does he warn us of? Why is this important? Why do you think it is spoken about in the context of spiritual gifts?

Read Romans 12:9 – 21:

9. Paul now turns his attention to our attitude to others. How can this be influenced by our attitude to ourselves?
10. What is our attitude to be? How is this related to our minds being ‘transformed’ in v2?
11. How are we to react to those who persecute us? Why can this be difficult?
12. Why is our reaction to others so important?
13. How can we practically put into practice the lessons learnt in this passage?