

Romans

in thirty

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If you have any questions about what you're reading or need help, please contact mynextstep@seekreallife.com.

Day One

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 1:1-17

Reflect:

Who is the author of this passage? What are his circumstances?

Who is the audience and what is his main message to the audience?

What word or phrase sticks out to you? What draws you to it? What lesson or action might God be calling you towards?

Respond:

Share your word or phrase with the Real Life community journeying through Romans with you. You can do this on our Facebook page or blog. In fact, throughout your journey through Romans, you'll come across several words or phrases that God draws your attention to as you read. Share what you discover! Scripture is intended to be read in community, so find a way to share what He's teaching you today!

Day Two

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 1:18-2:16

Reflect:

Who is the wrath of God being revealed to in this passage and why? What have they failed to do?

Who is responsible for judging others for their actions? If it is not us as Christians, what are we called to do and what is promised to us if we do it?

This is a heavy passage. What sticks out to you? Why?

Respond:

Find a trusted person and have a conversation about this passage. Don't expect to find answers or win a debate – just try to find a listening ear to help clarify where you are at. If verbal processing isn't your thing, find another expressive outlet like journaling, prayer, etc.

Day Three

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 2:17-29

Reflect:

Try summarizing this passage in one sentence. What do you see as the main idea of today's reading?

Where do you see this idea being played out in your day-to-day life? Give a specific example.

Respond:

Identify a physical manifestation of your values or about what you think is generally cool. This could be a sticker on your car, a t-shirt with a certain print, a tattoo, a movie, a certain team's jersey, a car choice, anything.

Think about what this outward projection says about your inward values. Do they mesh? Do they mesh with God's call in your life? Does it matter?

Day Four

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 3:1-20

Reflect:

Why might verses 1-8 be considered funny?

Verse 20 seems to be the crux of today's reading, indicated by the word, "therefore" (NIV). Go back and re-read 9-20 to understand why this "therefore" is true.

Respond:

Identify some social norm that you take pride in following. It could be holding the door for another, taking your hat off at the dinner table, saying "excuse me," etc. Where does this desire come from? Why is this action or behavior important to you? What do you gain? What do others gain?

Day Five

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 3:21-31

Reflect:

What does this passage say about faith?

What does this passage say about the law?

Respond:

Has your perception of faith and the "law" ever conflicted? There are times that one or both can be wrong. Identify the supports you use to work through the conflict.

Day Six

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 4

Reflect:

The dominant word in today's reading is faith. Write two sentences about faith based on what you've read today.

Respond:

Look back on what you have read in Romans up to this point. Identify a verse that you connect with and write it down somewhere you'll see it daily. This could be a sticky-note placed on the dashboard of your truck, a journal entry, a scrap of paper tucked into your pocket for the day, etc.

Day Seven

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 5:1-11

Reflect:

Through faith, we are j_____. We have peace with God through J_____.

Through faith in him, we have g_____ in which we now stand. Now we can b_____ in the h_____ of the glory of God. (NIV)

Ultimately, with Christ, suffering produces hope through the Holy Spirit. Why do you think this is so hard to remember sometimes?

Respond:

I am loved and empowered by God. Repeat this three times. How might this truth influence your actions today?

Day Eight

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 5:12-21

Reflect:

Paul is comparing Jesus to Adam. What is he stating about each of them?

Jesus



Adam

What is the point Paul is trying to make in verses 18-21?

Respond:

Try praying a prayer of thanks to our God for His grace in your life. Try doing it multiple times today. Then, in the evening, find someone to talk to about it.

Day Nine

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 6:1-14

Reflect:

Identify the crux verse in this passage, the one that seems to sum it up best.

Respond:

Try to have that verse memorized by the end of the day. Recite it to someone for extra credit.

Day Ten

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 6:15-23

Reflect:

Define the term "slave" in your own words.

How does this idea help inform our relationship with God?

Respond:

As you go about your day, try to identify possible indicators of slavery in your life. If someone were to look at your stuff, where would they say your loyalty lies?

Day Eleven

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 7:1-6

Reflect:

We don't serve because of the law, we serve because of the Spirit. Rewrite this passage below in your own words:

Respond:

Try being thoughtful about why you are going about what you're doing today. Pray about it. Ask God to help you see the difference between doing things because you have to, versus doing things because you are motivated by the Spirit.

Day Twelve

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 7:7-25

Reflect:

Paul is clearly struggling here. What is causing the tension?

That last verse is pretty interesting. What do you think it means?

Respond:

There is God's law and the laws of sin. In your life, what are you doing when you are following God's law? What are you seeing, saying, and doing?

What are you doing when you are following the law of sin? What are you seeing, saying, and doing?

Spend some time worshiping and thanking Jesus. He is our victory!

Day Thirteen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 8:1-14

Reflect:

According to the passage, we live by either the sinful nature in us or the Spirit of God in us. How might we know which is which?

Respond:

Identify a person that helps you live by the Spirit of God in you. Let them know. You don't have to say the exact words, just let them know that you appreciate their positive influence.

Day Fourteen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 8:15-30

Reflect:

What does it mean to be an "Heir of God and co-heirs with Christ"?

According to the passage, define hope:

Summarize verses 26 and 27 in one sentence.

According to verses 28-30 (NIV), if we love God and are called according to His purpose, we can trust that _____.

Respond:

On some sort of social media, share something about which you are hopeful.

Day Fifteen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 8:31-39

Reflect:

What do we sometimes think can separate us from the love of God?

What can actually separate us from God's love?

Respond:

Walk a little taller today knowing that you are loved, that you are a child of God, and nothing can change that!

Day Sixteen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 9:1-18

Reflect:

This whole passage boils down to verse 18, but 1-17 are important as well. How do these verses inform our understanding of verse 18?

Respond:

Verse 18 is an interesting idea. What are a few different ways to interpret that idea? Which do you think is right? What are you basing your decision on?

For extra credit: Take some time to read the story of Moses and Pharaoh in Exodus 5:1-15:21 and see the progression of Pharaoh's heart hardening to a point beyond his own control.

Day Seventeen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 9:19-33

Reflect:

After reading the entire passage, go back and interpret the illustration Paul makes in verse 21. What is Paul saying there?

Respond:

What do you think God has created you to be in this life?

What might be a stumbling stone that could get in the way of that?

Day Eighteen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 10:1-15

Reflect:

According to the passage, the Israelites had a lot of passion for God, but they did not have true r_____ that comes with k_____. (NIV)

What did Paul want his audience to go do for the Israelites? Why?

Respond:

Identify a relationship in your life where you might be more vocal about teaching the word of God. Pray with God about how you might go about doing just that.

Day Nineteen

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 10:16-11:6

Reflect:

"...faith comes from hearing the _____, and the message is heard through the _____ about Christ." (NIV)

How does grace trump works?

Respond:

How do you spread the word of God? Big or small, it all makes some difference.

Day Twenty

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 11:7-24

Reflect:

What part of this grafting analogy do you identify with the most? Why?

Respond:

Paul found inspiration in the things around him. Try taking a walk outside and looking around at the growing, living, green things. Ask God to speak to you during this time.

Day Twenty-one

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 11:25-36

Reflect:

According to the passage, who has God come to save?

A doxology is a liturgical formula of praise to God. What is the main point of this doxology in verses 33-36?

Respond:

Try responding to God by expressing your own doxology to Him. Write it down or just work it out in your head. You might be surprised by what you create!

Day Twenty-two

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 12:1-13

Reflect:

Pick out three points from this passage that stick out to you or that you connect with. Why did you pick these three?

Respond:

This passage can be read as a how-to guide concerning how to live with others: family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc.

Which one of your communities do you think needs these demonstrated the most? Why?

Now, do one thing today that demonstrates what you would like to see in that community.

Day Twenty-three

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 12:14-21

Reflect:

What part of this passage do you think you need to hear the most? Which part hits home?

Respond:

Tell the story of why this hits home for you. Even if it is just to your cat, there is power in giving voice to our thoughts.

Day Twenty-four

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 13:1-7

Reflect:

We have a lot of authority figures in our lives: bosses, parents, politicians, teachers, pastors, police, etc. Pick one. How might this passage inform our relationship with that authority?

Respond:

Do something for or in service to that authority in the name of Christ Jesus, but do it quietly, without them knowing it's you, if you can.

Day Twenty-five

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 13:8-14

Reflect:

If we focus on I _____ and live a life out in the open, then it will be easier to not think about gratifying our _____ nature. (NIV)

Paul uses a clear contrast between light and dark in this passage to illustrate what primary point?

Respond:

Define what it might mean to clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ. Try doing it mentally as you get ready for the day tomorrow morning.

Day Twenty-six

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 14:1-12

Reflect:

According to this passage, who has the right to judge a servant?

Make a list of disputable matters in today's society. Make another list of indisputable matters.

Respond:

Pray with God about these things. They require grace and love when we come across them.

Day Twenty-seven

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 14:13-23

Reflect:

Paul is stating that _____ does not matter.

Paul claims that it is _____ that matters the most.

Respond:

Read verses 22 and 23 a few times and then evaluate some of your own choices. How might these verses apply?

Day Twenty-eight

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 15:1-22

Reflect:

If you had to sum up this passage with one word, what would it be and why?

Once we have learned to put others first, why do you think Paul launches into rejoicing?

Respond:

Rejoice, even as you put them first, with those around you! Take a little extra time to be happy about a meal together or a shared conversation at work. Rejoice!

Day Twenty-nine

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 15:23-16:16

Reflect:

What things does Paul seem most concerned about in this passage?

Why do you think this is?

Respond:

In your head (or actually do it), write a letter to a group of people you care about: family, friends, co-workers, etc. Imagine that you may not see them for a long time.

What are the points that you want to cover?

How might your priorities line up with Paul's? How might they line up with God's?

Day Thirty

Lord God, thank you for the space to read your word today. Please be my guide during this time. I believe your word and its power to speak truth in my life. Help me dwell on the truth you have for me in this passage. In your name I pray, amen.

Read: Romans 16:17-27

Reflect:

What does Paul warn us about here? What has him so concerned?

Verses 25-27 contains a salutation that is primarily concerned with _____ because _____.

Respond:

Take a look back and scan through the book of Romans.

Can you find a reoccurring idea?

What is God saying to you about this idea through the book of Romans?

Share with our community how what God has been teaching you over these thirty days.

Real Life Church

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