

## Romans (Part One of Two)

### The problem:

Romans 1-4

All of humanity is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

We cannot be saved by our:

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### The answer:

Romans 3:21-26, 5:8-10

Jesus' death \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_, and His life gives us a new:

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### The response:

Romans 7-8

We now have an old life to \_\_\_\_\_ and a new life to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Romans (Part One of Two)

### The problem:

Romans 1-4

All of humanity is **BROKEN** and **LOST**.

We cannot be saved by our:

**RELIGION**  
**MORALITY**  
**FAMILY**

### The answer:

Romans 3:21-26, 5:8-10

Jesus' death **PAID** our **DEBT**, and His life gives us a new:

**SELF**  
**STATUS**  
**RELATIONSHIP**  
**FAMILY**  
**FUTURE**

### The response:

Romans 7-8

We now have an old life to **LEAVE** and a new life to **LIVE OUT**.

## Life Group Study Questions

### For the week of May 2, 2021

**27: The Letters That Define Us** – To help you make the most of this new series through the books of the New Testament, we encourage you to mark up your Bible and read each book along with us before we meet! When it comes to reading the Bible, everyone reads and learns in different ways. Here are a few helpful resources for us to engage in God’s Word:

- [YouVersion Bible app](#)— for audio version of the Bible, taking notes and highlighting in the app
- [Enduring Word app by David Guzik](#)— for extra commentary and historical context
- [ReadScripture app by The Bible Project](#)— for short videos explaining themes and storylines

#### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

#### MY STORY

1. We’re excited about starting our new series, 27: The Letters That Define Us! If someone asked you to describe the New Testament, what would you say?

2. This week we heard the theme verse for the book of Romans: “For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’” (Romans 1:17) Can you remember when you first began to hear and/or understand this concept of “living by faith” in regard to following Jesus? If so, explain.

#### DIGGING DEEPER

1. The book of Romans is our foundational book of the Bible that clarifies our need for Jesus and defines what living by faith looks like. Romans 1-7 explains our need for Jesus, while Romans 8 is the pivot point in the book showing us the new life God’s Spirit provides for us. As you read Romans 8:14-39, underline in your Bible all that has to do with what the Spirit offers us as followers of Jesus, then make a list below.

#### **Romans 8:14-39 New International Version (NIV)**

*<sup>14</sup>For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup>The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. <sup>17</sup>Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. <sup>18</sup>I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup>Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. <sup>26</sup>In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God. <sup>28</sup>And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup>And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. <sup>31</sup>What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Looking back at your list, which one or two are the most affirming for you to live out your faith confidently?

Is there one that is more challenging than the others?

“Living by faith” is an action statement. In light of what the Spirit is doing or wants to do in your life, is there anything you need to move forward on, pause, rest in or stop doing, in regard to your list?

2. One of the benefits of a Spirit-led life is that God is still at work during difficult times. Romans 8:28 is one of the most misunderstood verses when life is difficult. How do Romans 5:3-5 and the rest of what you just read in Romans 8 help us to better understand this verse?

***Romans 5:3-5 New International Version (NIV)***

*<sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*

Is there a situation in your life where you need help seeing how God is at work even though it may seem He is not?

## TAKING IT HOME

Which point from this weekend's message or Life Group study is most important for you to remember?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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### MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us for a manly breakfast, great worship, fellowship and an inspiring message from Chris Brown. Men of all ages from all campuses are invited to join us on Saturday, May 15 from 8:15-10:00am. Free breakfast with tons of pancakes and Lil' Smokies in the Vista Plaza! RSVP at [northcoastchurch.com/mens-breakfast/](http://northcoastchurch.com/mens-breakfast/).