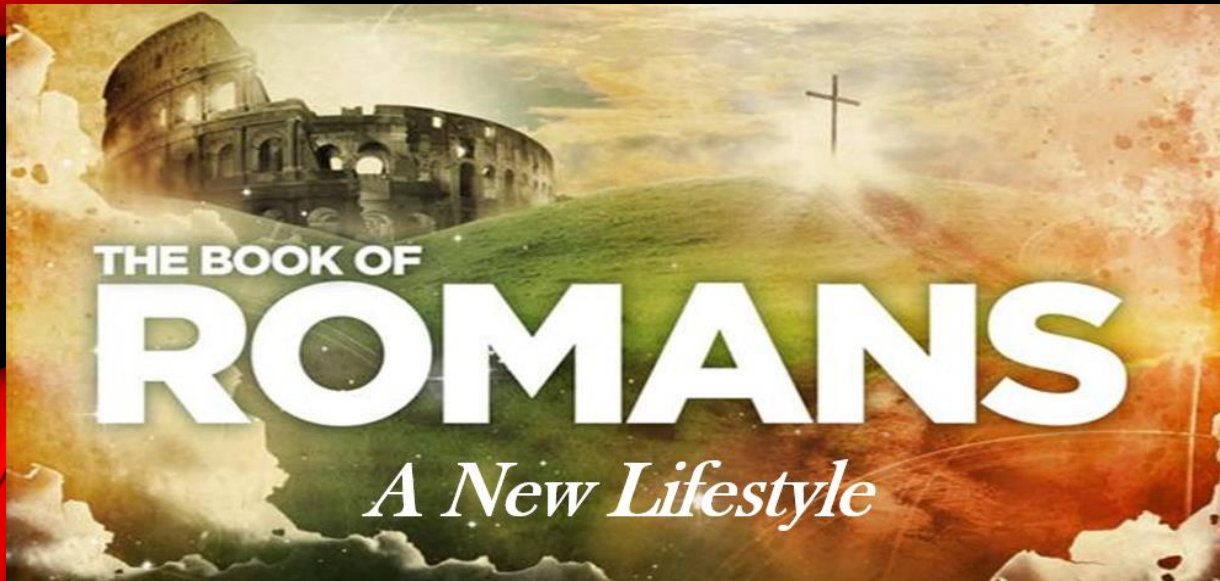


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



SRMBC 1ST & 2ND QTR BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Date	Lesson Title	Scripture
1/10/2018	Good News from God	Romans 1:1 -17
1/24/2018	The Wrath of God	Romans 1:18 - 32
1/31/2018	The Judgment of God	Romans 2
4/11/2018	The Verdict	Romans 3:1 – 20
4/18/2018	The Righteousness from God	Romans 3:21 – 31
4/25/2018	The Example of Abraham	Romans 4
5/2/2018	Reasons to Rejoice	Romans 5
5/9/2018	New Life, New Lifestyle	Romans 6:1 – 7:6
5/16/2018	Our Struggle with Sin	Romans 7:7 – 25
5/23/2018	The Spirit Brings Life	Romans 8:1 – 17
5/30/2018	Glorious Conquerors	Romans 8:18 – 39
6/6/2018	The Potter & His Clay	Romans 9:1 – 29
6/13/2018	Misguided Zeal	Romans 9: 30 – 10:21
6/20/2018	The Future of Israel	Romans 11
6/27/2018	Living As Living Sacrifices	Romans 12
7/11/2018	Submitting to Authorities	Romans 13 - 14
7/18/2018	Brothers & Sisters in Christ	Romans 15 - 16

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Romans: A New Lifestyle: Lesson 15: Living as Living Sacrifices Romans 12

The Apostle Paul – The Letter to the Romans

- **Author:** Romans 1:1 identifies the author of the Book of Romans as the apostle Paul.
- **Date of Writing:** The Book of Romans was likely written A.D. 56-58.
- **Purpose of Writing:** His purpose in writing was to proclaim Jesus Christ by teaching doctrine and edify and encourage the believers.

The Book Of Romans Tells Us:

- About **God**, who He is and what He has done.
- It tells us of **Jesus Christ**, what His death and resurrection accomplished.
- It tells us **about ourselves**, what we were like without Christ and who we are after trusting in Christ.



Group Discussion:

Jesus once told a Pharisee that a person who is forgiven little loves little but a person who is forgiven much loves much (Luke 7:47). Why do you think this is so?

Loves Little

- Self-Sufficiency– A person may be too – high on themselves
- Self-delusion – Not realizing how bad their sins really are. (The Lorax – How bad can I be?)
- Self Reliance – Thinking that they have resources to pay the debt (not that big a deal)
-

Loves Much

- Understands their guilt and shame of what they done
- Understands the appreciation of grace and mercy of being forgiven
- Understands the values of the relationship with the offended

Romans 12:1 - 4 (NKJV)

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,

Romans 12:5 - 8 (NKJV)

5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;

7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1. What are some ways God's grace and mercy (v. 1) has been demonstrated in Romans 1—11?

<u>Romans 3:24</u>	Through God's Gift of Grace – He sees us as if we never sinned – Just like Jesus.
<u>Romans 4:16</u>	Not through any works we've done – but by faith and grace we are brought into family of God (Promises/Blessing of Abraham)
<u>Romans 6:1</u> 14-15	We are freed from the Power of Sin. And by grace we can go from Slaves of Sin to Slaves of God
<u>Romans 9:15-23</u>	God has chosen through merit of my own to be gracious and merciful to me
<u>Romans 11:5-6</u> <u>Romans 11:30-32</u>	God has by election and grace has chosen us despite of unworthiness and sinful guilt to be saved. Even the disobedience of Israel works toward our behalf

2. Why do you think Paul uses the imagery of living sacrifices to describe our proper response to God's mercy? Why is this kind of worship pleasing to God?

- Paul uses this imagery as a reference the OT sacrifices the Priest made to God. Each offering had to be of the best quality in appreciation of God's mercy.
- The term "Living" Sacrifices is in contrast the dead sacrifices in the OT – Living meaning continually on going.
- Our bodies – we are the temple of the Holy Spirit – the very house of Spirit of God We have been created to worship Him.

2. Why do you think Paul uses the imagery of living sacrifices to describe our proper response to God's mercy? Why is this kind of worship pleasing to God?

- This kind of worship pleases God – because He is holy and righteous – When we worship our goal is to please Him
- Worship is the acceptable, reasonable response to Character, Mercy and grace of God



3. How are we influenced and pressured to conform to the world? What are some ways we can renew our minds (v. 2) and so be transformed?

How we are pressured:

- Peer-Pressure - The pull to be accepted by those around us.
- Entertainment (movies, music, media, etc.) paints a false message of God's Word/Will
- Oppression/Persecution – the world tries pressure and threaten Christians to conform
- Enticement - Tempting us to conform by offering Pleasures (sex, money, power, etc,

How Can we renew our Minds:

- Reading and Studying the Word – Daily
- Prayer regular devotions to the Lord
- Consistent and attendance and participation in Sunday Worship
- Commitment to Serving in Ministry

4. Sometimes we view God's will as something to be avoided rather than desired. How can the last part of verse 2 correct this distortion?

- **Good Will** – No matter how difficult it may seem, God's will be His glory and ultimately for our good.
- **Acceptable Will** – What God deems for us in the beauty of Holiness in worship is always acceptable to Him
- **Perfect Will** – God is perfect – so His will for you is perfect. My wife is not perfect – but in accordance with God's will she is perfect for me).

Only by being renewed spiritually can a believer ascertain, do, and enjoy the will of God.

Romans 12:9 – 14 (NKJV)

9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.

10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Romans 11:21 – 24 (NKJV)

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

Romans 9:19 – 21 (NKJV)

19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

20 Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

5. As you think “with sober judgment” about yourself, what gift (or gifts) do you think God has given you (vv. 3-8)? How can you use it (them) to benefit the body of Christ?

Sober Judgment - An inflated view of oneself is out of place in the Christian life. Paul encourages us to think (in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you to serve Him.

- Each of us should know which Spiritual Gift(s) we have (Rom 12:6 – 8, Eph.4:4 - 16, 1 Cor.12:12 – 28).
- Spiritual Gifts are specifically used to build up the local Church and equip others for ministry.
- Find a need where you are passionate and gifted to fill and get busy serving.

6. How would the kind of love Paul describes in verses 9-16 transform our relationships with other Christians?

⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good.	Where the Love of Christ Solid as a Rock
Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.	No Cliques – no one would be looking for glory but how to lift another up
¹¹ Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.	No "unemployment" full participation and a full house in Worship
¹² Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.	Everyone in good mood – not grouchy despite what's going on
When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality	A generous and giving church – where people are glad serve others
¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep.	Coming alongside in fellowship (You are not the only fellow in the ship)
Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!	We will be a family and people will see us as the "Jesus Bunch!"

7. How can Paul's advice in verses 17-21 help us to overcome our enemies?

¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are Never Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone	It would help people to see that we are not all hypocrites. Everything problem doesn't have to be a "social justice" issue.
Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God	It helps us to live a lot less stressful – understanding that God will vindicate us when we are wronged
If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.	Our good toward our enemies will confuse them and cause the evil they committed to feel like it come back on them.

8. In what ways do you need to begin living more sacrificially before God, other Christians or the world?

Sacrificially before God

- Time – Spend for time in prayer, study of His Word, Worship
- Talent – Use my resources to get better at Ministry (school, seminars, etc.)
- Treasure – Become a more faithful giver

Other Christians

- Prayer for those in my church/family/world
- Be more sensitive to needs around me
- Be more of an encourager and less of a complainer

The World

- Prayer for my enemies and frenemies alike
- Prayer for the lost that they would come to know the Lord
- Stepping out to support to people in need (Home and Foreign Missions)

KEYS FOR LIVING

- ***Our motivation for living a life that pleases God is understanding and appreciating His great love and mercy toward us.***
- ***We need a daily renewing of our minds by the Word and the Spirit of God in order to successfully combat the mindset of this ungodly world.***
- ***A church full of people living as living sacrifices will make a real difference – both within and outside the church.***

