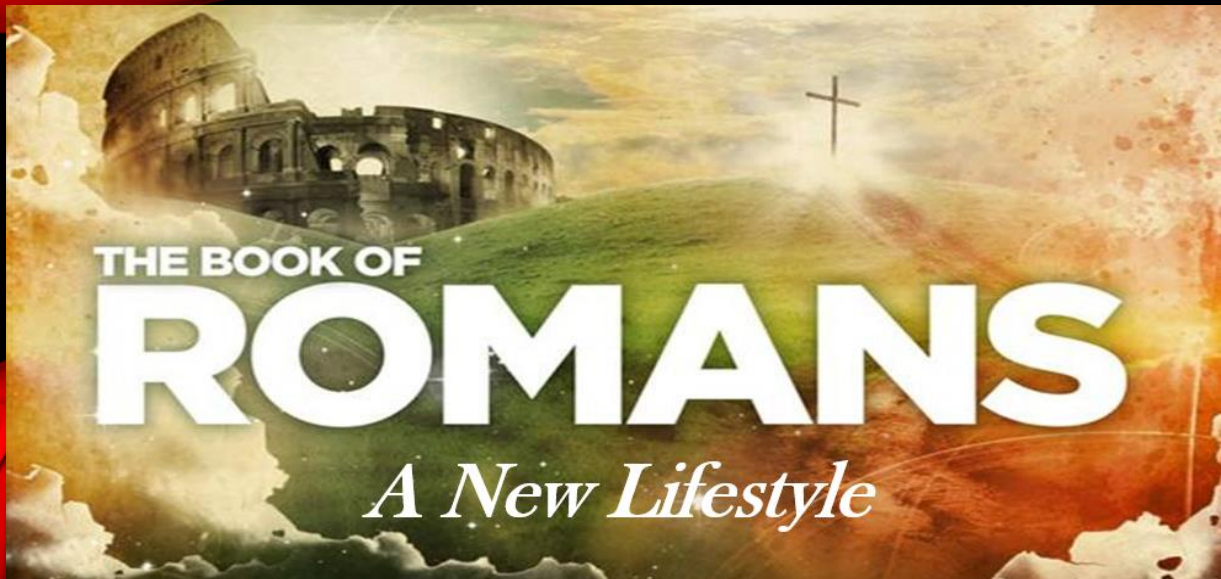


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



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

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Romans: A New Lifestyle: Lesson 3: The Judgment of God Romans 2

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:

Why is it sometimes hard to believe that ordinary people you know are sinful and under God's judgment?

- I know some people that I love and who are really nice – but since they have rejected Jesus (and God's righteous standards) it is hard to comprehend.
- This may be hard to swallow even a guy like Gandhi – Civil rights leader and activist, if he rejected Jesus' salvation and Lordship, is lost and under God's judgement.
- I often wonder why God doesn't just give certain "good" people a break – cut them (us) some slack, grade on a curve. That's what I would do if I were God.

Romans 2:1 – 5 (NLT)

1 You may think you can condemn such people, but **you are just as bad**, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, **you are condemning yourself**, for you who judge others do **these very same things**.

2 And we know that God, in his justice, will punish anyone who does such things.

3 Since **you judge others** for doing these things, why do you think you can avoid God's judgment when you do the same things?

4 Don't you see how **wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient** God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his **kindness is intended to turn you from your sin**?

5 But because you are **stubborn and refuse** to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming, when **God's righteous judgment** will be revealed.

Romans 2:6 – 11 (NLT)

6 He will **judge everyone** according to **what they have done**.

7 He will **give eternal life** to those who keep on **doing good**, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers.

8 But he will pour out his anger and wrath on those **who live for themselves**, who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness.

9 There will be **trouble and calamity** for everyone who keeps on doing what is evil—for the **Jew first and also for the Gentile**.

10 But there will be **glory and honor** and peace from God for all who do good—for the **Jew first and also for the Gentile**.

11 For **God does not show favoritism**.

Romans 2:12 – 16 (NKJV)

12 When the **Gentiles sin, they will be destroyed**, even though they never had God's written law. And the Jews, who do have God's law, will be judged by that law when they fail to obey it.

13 For merely **listening to the law** doesn't make us right with God. It is **obeying the law that makes us right** in his sight.

14 Even **Gentiles, who do not have God's written law**, show that they know his law when they **instinctively obey it**, even without having heard it.

15 They demonstrate that **God's law is written in their hearts**, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they **are doing right**.

16 And this is the message I proclaim—that **the day is coming** when God, through **Christ Jesus, will judge everyone's** secret life.

Romans 2:17 – 21 (NKJV)

17 You who **call yourselves Jews** are relying on God's law, **and you boast** about your special relationship with him.

18 You know what he wants; **you know what is right** because you have been taught his law.

19 **You are convinced** that you are a guide for the blind and a light for people who are lost in darkness.

20 **You think you can instruct** the ignorant and teach children the ways of God. For you are certain that **God's law gives you complete knowledge and truth.**

21 Well then, if you teach others, **why don't you teach yourself?** You tell others not to steal, but do you steal??

Romans 2:22 – 25 (NLT)

22 You say it is **wrong to commit adultery**, but do **you commit adultery?** You condemn idolatry, but do you use items stolen from pagan temples?

23 You are so proud of **knowing the law**, but you **dishonor God by breaking it.**

24 No wonder the Scriptures say, "The **Gentiles blaspheme the name of God because of you.**"

25 The Jewish **ceremony of circumcision** has value only if you **obey God's law.** But **if you don't obey God's law**, you are no better off than **an uncircumcised Gentile.**

Romans 2:26 – 29 (NKJV)

26 And if the **Gentiles obey God's law**, won't God declare them to be his own people?

27 In fact, **uncircumcised Gentiles who keep God's law** will condemn you Jews who are circumcised and possess God's law but don't obey it.

28 For you are not **a true Jew** just because you were born of **Jewish parents** or because you have gone through the **ceremony of circumcision**.

29 No, **a true Jew is one whose heart is right with God**. And true circumcision is not merely obeying the letter of the law; rather, **it is a change of heart** produced by the Spirit. And a person with **a changed heart seeks praise from God**, not from people.

1. When people are judgmental of others, how do they reveal both an understanding and a misunderstanding of God's judgment (vv. 1 – 4)?

Understanding of God's judgment

- There is a right and wrong from God's Perspective.
- God is displeased with our disobedience and will judge our sin/wrongdoing.
- There is no excuse for wrongdoing.

Misunderstanding of God's Judgment

- All of sinned (including you).
- It is foolish for us to judge others when we are doing the same things. God's judgment will come upon us as well – we will not escape.
- God's goodness and grace is the reason Judgment hasn't fallen on us (including you).

2. Verses 5 – 16 describe a future day of judgment. What will God consider important and unimportant on that day?

Unimportant

- Our own good works – in an attempt to be right with God.
- What everyone else is doing.
- Our excuses for not believing and obeying the Gospel.

Important

- Do we measure up to God's law?
- Did we believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
- If we say we believed, did it show in our lifestyle?

In verses 5-16 Paul states that God will decide our eternal destiny on the basis of our obedience or disobedience. He is not suggesting, however, that anyone will be saved by their obedience.

3. How are God's standards of judgment both similar and different for the two groups described in verses 12 – 16?

Similarities of Jews and Gentiles

- All will be judged by the same standards – the Law of God.
- Jews will be judged by the same law – that they know yet fail to obey.
- Jesus Christ will judge everyone's secret sins.

Differences

- Jews have God's law written – and are responsible to know and obey God's righteousness.
- The Gentiles although they don't have the law per se – but God has instinctively placed the knowledge of right and wrong in each of them/us.

4. Many non-Christians have high moral standards. How can we use their own standards to help them see their need of Christ?

- We Can Use Parables – Like Nathan did with David (Cf. II Sam. 12:1 – 13) when he had sinned against the Lord, Uriah and with Bathsheba.
- We have the tendency to be very critical of others for their sins while not realizing that we are just as guilty as the one's we condemn.
- As we look at the “Good – O – Meter” we, should realize that apart from the shed blood and resurrection of Jesus – none of us can be “Good Enough”.
- – O how we should thank the Lord for His grace and Mercy.

5. In verses 17 – 29 Paul focuses his attention on a hypocritical Jew. How does such a person view himself and others (vv. 17 – 20)?

Themselves

- They think they are the “bee’s knees” the only person who really knows God and are saved.
- They think they know more of the Word and are more spiritual than others.
- They think they are the only ones who know the way.
- They do no wrong like others do (Luke 18:9 – 13).

Others

- Everybody else is ignorant of God and His Word.
- People around them are utterly lost and useless.
- They are further away from God with no hope without them.

6. Why would non-Jews blaspheme God's name because of such people (vv. 21 – 24)? How has religious hypocrisy hurt the cause of Christ in our day?

- When they see the “believers” acting ungodly – unbelievers will attribute their bad actions to God.
- People are looking to God through the people who are called and supposed to represent Him in the earth.
- We are, in some ways, the only “Bible” people will see.

The Barna research team discovered that 84% of young non-Christians say they know a Christian personally, yet only 15% say the lifestyles of those believers are noticeably different in a good way

7. How had some of them confused the sign of circumcision with what it signified (vv. 25 – 29)?

- They thought that the outward sign/work of circumcision made them righteous.
- Being circumcised, meant you can live anyway you want (no heart change).
- The sign of circumcision was/is to reflect the inward change of the heart.
- God is looking for inward change of heart that will affect your outward behavior.
- It is the Spirit of God that produces the change in us.
- When our hearts are changed – we seek to please God and not get praise for ourselves (How great I art!).

8. How can this chapter help you share the gospel more effectively with seemingly respectable, religious or moral non-Christians you know?

- First – I need to make sure I am maintaining regular reflection, confession and prayer for my own sin – repenting of any hypocrisy.
- Remembering to be humble before God and others – realizing I need a Savior as much as anyone.
- Speaking the truth about sin and God's judgment in love – not condescending or in an attitude of superiority.

KEYS FOR LIVING

- *It is futile to think that by condemning the sins and behaviors of others, we can get away with doing the same things. God will judge us all according to His righteousness – not ours.*
- *One reason why many have not experienced the full judgment of God is due to His goodness that seeks to draw sinners to repentance.*
- *Jesus is the only Way to salvation for all people - Jews, Gentiles and the people of every nation. This way is exclusive (only Jesus) but also inclusive (for everyone).*

