



Welcome

Welcome to our all-church study of Romans. This study has been prepared by Pastor Malcolm Davis in conjunction with the Adult Curriculum Development team. The study is planned for 16 weeks and will cover the entire text of Paul's letter to the Romans.

Our prayer is that the material will encourage a discipline of daily Bible study. If you already study daily, great! You might use the Romans study in place of your regular study. If not, our prayer is that after doing a few daily lessons, you will be encouraged by the Holy Spirit to continue such a discipline.

Our hope is that you will become, if you are not already, a part of a small group. The reason for this is simple, that by becoming a part of a community/small group, you will have the opportunity to learn from others as well as share what you have learned. Understand that everyone is not a Bible scholar, nor does everyone study on a daily basis, nor is everyone in the same place along their spiritual life line. We will have people of all experience levels involved in this study and every one of them has something to contribute to the others every week. Please consider being a part of a small group.

A second hope is that all our spiritual lives will be drastically changed as a result of studying Romans together. By the end of the study, may we as a church family, say with the same confidence as Paul, his words in Romans 1:16-17 *"I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*

Dr. James Boice said "To study this book is to walk in the footsteps, not only of the apostle Paul, but of such theological and pastoral giants as Martin Luther, John Calvin, Robert Haldane, Charles Hodge, D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, and many others."¹

Imagine! We can read and study the same inspired letter that brought life and power to such leaders as Dr. Boice identifies. And the same Holy Spirit who taught them will teach us! We can experience revival in our hearts, homes, church, and community if the message of this letter grips us as it has gripped men and women of faith in centuries past.

Remembering the words of Jesus from Mark 12:30, *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."*

May this study touch our hearts, souls, minds, and strength as we come closer to the Lord our God through studying Romans. Welcome aboard!

¹ Dr. J. Boice, *An Expositional Commentary, Romans Volume 1*, (Baker Books isbn 0-8010-6579-8), pp. 9.