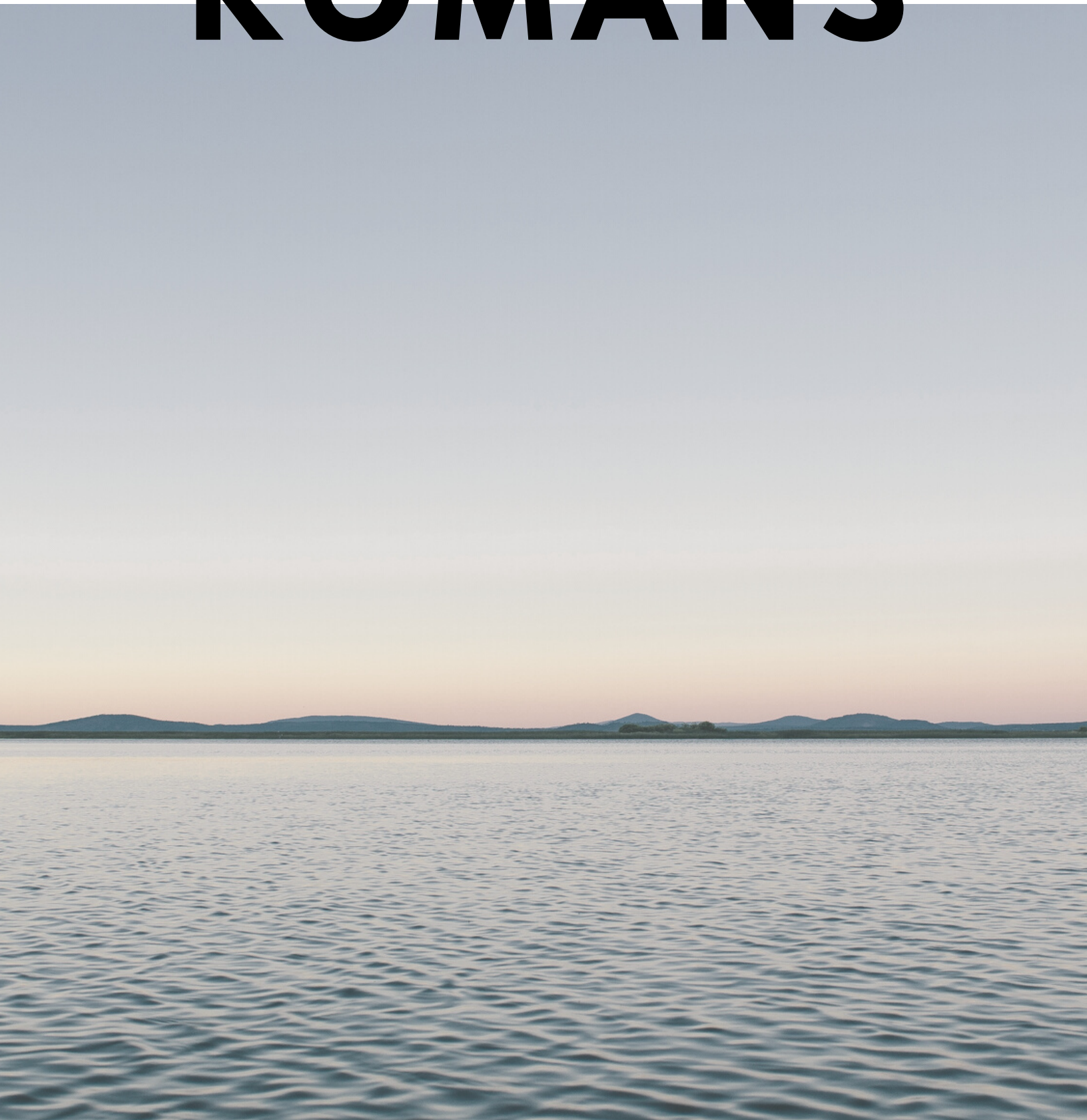


ROMANS



THE BOOK OF ROMANS

This study is going to look a little different from studies you may have done before. The goal of this study is for you to get into God's word for yourself. That's right-there are no videos, daily questions, or study guides for this study- just you and the book of Romans. Reading God's Word can feel intimidating, but it doesn't have to. Our hope in this study is to give you the chance to hear from God *firsthand*, while giving you some tools along the way to help you. Jen Wilkin calls it spiritual foolishness to claim to love a God we will not take the time to really know for ourselves. Let us open up the Word to study Jesus, the Living Word, and encounter Him for ourselves (and encounter Him with our *own* minds).

IN THIS GUIDE

In our study we will move through three phases of study each week, and as a whole over the course of twelve weeks. Jen Wilkin describes these phases as **comprehension**: “What does the text say”; **interpretation**: “what does it mean” and **application**: “how does it apply to me and my life?”. In each of these phases we are working through the text to gain a clear understanding of what is being written, what it means, and what it reveals about God and ourselves. Each week there are different “skill -building” resources that aid in the first two components (comprehension and interpretation). There are some guiding questions to help you utilize those resources each week. Additional resources (podcasts, sermons, articles) are provided to give you extra insight into the text. Below is a suggested format of study. Romans is a deeply rich book full of truth about God, our Savior Jesus, and the good news of the gospel. My prayer for you is that you would be able to learn and grow in your love and knowledge of the Lord as you study this book. To know Him is to love Him. May He be magnified in your life during these next 12 weeks, sister.

WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Your week *could* look like this:

- **Day 1:** read the content for the week all the way through, meditate on it, look for repeating words or themes, try to look for an overview of what's happening in this passage of scripture
- **Days 2&3:** Use the "skill-building" resource and suggested questions on these days to help you dig into the text.
- **Day 4:** Utilize the TGC resource on this day for further context and deeper study.
- **Day 5:** Look at the additional resources (sermons, etc.) to help you gain some further understanding and perspective. Spend some time praying for the Lord to continue to reveal Himself to you

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **The Righteous Shall Live by Faith** This is a commentary on Romans written by RC Sproul you can find [HERE](#)
- **Romans-Psallos** This is the entire book of Romans set to music. You can find on spotify [HERE](#)

TAKE HEART

- 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us that all scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching..training in righteousness so that the servant of God may be equipped for *every* good work (that includes the dishes and hours spent driving kids in the car) We have a God who has spoken and still speaks to us through His Word. If we feel ill-equipped we are in the right place. God's Word is what equips us for everything God has called us to. God Himself does the work in you.
- God's word is sweeter than honey and God calls us to taste and see that He is Good, This word is delicious and also nutritious.
- You do not walk alone. Praise God for the beauty of the community that He has called you into as you seek to know Him more.
- Get into the Word for yourself before seeking the wisdom from outside resources, commentaries, etc!

WEEKLY RESOURCES

WEEK 1 *overview*

Romans 1-16

skill-building resource:

- [Jen Wilkin-Day 1](#)
- [Romans Overview resources](#)

1. Read through the entire book to gain perspective on the book; don't try to make big observations yet.

2. Note any observations from the text and/or introduction to the book you may have in your bible related to Jen Wilkin's first two questions:

- Who wrote the book?

A couple of noteworthy examples: Paul, previously Saul; From tribe of Benjamin of Israelites; Note other relevant insights about the author.

- To whom was the book written?

Examples: The church in Rome; Paul has never been there yet. Add further observations

Feel free to list any observations related to the other three of Jen's five questions if you wish. We will discuss some in this first meeting.

additional resources:

- ["**Murderer turned Missionary**" \(podcast episode\)](#)
- [**Romans Overview** \(sermon\)](#)

WEEK 2 *the power of God*

Romans 1:1-17

skill-building resource:

- Jen Wilkin-Day 2
- RH-Key Words
- Romans Week 2

Use the two resources from Jen Wilkin and Reaching Her as guidelines to work on the first tool of Comprehension in reading through Romans 1:1-17. Remember, this is a LEARNING PHASE, so you should simply mark and make notes on things that are meaningful to you without the assistance of any other notes or helps. There is no right or wrong in this phase. 1. Prayerfully read through the text and use whatever means are comfortable to you to try to highlight the six questions (five from Jen Wilkin, one from Reaching Her) that are tools for comprehension. Just use your Crossway Romans pages to do so! You may want to take Jen's advice and write those tools at the top of your page as a guideline. Don't get bogged down in trying to find "answers" - - just use these as guidelines to hone your skills of comprehension.

Questions to consider:

- What attributes of God do I see in the text?
- What words might I want to look up in the dictionary?
- What are the transition words? (E.G. If, But, Therefore)
- What questions do I have that jump out at me? (Answers may add to comprehension and/or be springboards to later steps of interpretation and application)
- What verse(s) would I understand better by checking other translation(s)?
- What are some keywords?

2. How does Paul describe himself in the first verse?

How might his description be paraphrased or summarized to help us better understand how he sees himself?

3. Note other observations from the remainder of the text about the author's heart and actions that might be important insights to current and future understanding. How might you describe your impressions of Paul from his words?

additional resources:

- ***The Righteous Shall Live by Faith*** (podcast).

WEEK 3 *grace for the sinner*

skill-building resource:

Romans 1:18-3:20

- Jen Wilkin-Day 3
- RH-Summarizing
- Romans Week 3

1. Go through the same process as last week in reading through the entire passage, making notes with the backdrop of the same six questions.
2. Practice this week's new skill of summarizing or paraphrasing verse by verse. You can try the whole passage or try a shorter section of your choice. If nothing stands out, consider 2:12-29.
3. Do the best you can to do the Reaching Her third step of summarizing your chosen part of the passage in one sentence.
4. Can you see one "big idea" of the entire passage (1:18-3:20) that might be summarized or paraphrased in one sentence? If so, do your best to write one down.

additional resources:

- **Romans 1** (sermon).
- **Judgment and Law** (podcast).

WEEK 4 *saving righteousness*

Romans 3:21-4:25

skill-building resource:

- [Jen Wilkin-Day_4](#)
- [RH-Lists](#)
- [Romans Week 4](#)

1. Continue to read, mark, and make notes on the pages of this passage (Do this each week!).
2. Use the lists strategy (Reaching Her) to note observations about the righteousness of God in 3:21-3:26.
3. Write a summary or paraphrase sentence from these six verses or, if you prefer, from the whole passage.
4. Using Jen Wilkin's guidelines on making applications, try to derive one that is most meaningful to you: One way that something in this passage can/should change you?

additional resources:

- [**Romans 3**](#) (sermon)
- [**What is Salvation?**](#) (article)

WEEK 5 *grace abounds*

Romans 5:1-21

skill-building resource:

- Romans Week 5
- Jen Wilkin-Day 5
- RH-Key Words

1. Before you begin your normal process of reading and marking, pray and ask God to enlighten His Word for you and speak through it. Continue to pray before, during, and after engaging your mind in His Word throughout your study.
2. Note keywords from this passage. Do they lend themselves to lists or definition? Use whatever skills we've learned that might enhance your understanding.
3. If there is a summary idea or application that strikes you, note it.
4. As Jen Wilkin encourages, NOW is the time you can look at study notes and resources like the Gospel Coalition resource included to illuminate your observations and questions. Note any additional understanding you might gain from this step.

additional resources:

- ***Justified by Faith*** (podcast).
- ***Romans 5*** (sermon).

WEEK 6 *newness of life*

Romans 6:1-7:25 *skill-building resource:*

- Romans Week 6
- RH-Truths

After you go through your normal process of praying, reading, marking/highlighting the passage:

1. Go back through and note/write out Truths (see Reaching Her Resource) you notice in this passage. As a reminder from that resource, ""Truths are factual concrete statements that build a foundation for our faith...They can be about God Himself and His character, and they can also be about us as individuals and humanity as a whole."
2. Now look over your list and see if there are common themes in those truths. Try to write out one or two summary/paraphrase statements that capture those themes. These can springboard into interpretations of the passage.
3. Highlight a few of those truths that particularly stand out to you. What are one or two applications you might derive from these statements?

additional resources:

- **Not under law but under Grace** (sermon).
- **Freed from the Law** (sermon).

WEEK 7

life in the spirit

Romans 8:1-39

skill-building resource:

- Romans Week 7
- RH- Word Study

1. As you do your normal processes of diving into the text, try to note any terms that seem theological or otherwise might warrant further definition or exploration. Choose at least one of those and use the BlueLetterBible.org or other Concordance Resource as discussed in the Reaching Her Resource to learn more about the definition in the original language. Note that and any other things you might learn in that process.

2. What are a couple of key interpretations from the passage that you can summarize or paraphrase?

3. Applications?

additional resources:

- ***The Spirit and our Waiting*** (podcast)
- ***The Golden Chain*** (short sermon)

WEEK 8 *promise-keeper*

Romans 9:1-33

skill-building resource:

- Romans Week 8
- RH-Questions

1. This week as you read and mark, keep a mind towards “Questions” as shown in the Reaching Her Resource. This may already be part of your habit but there are a few new terms in this passage that should prompt a few of those questions in your mind. Note them.

2. Use word definition and concordance resources as needed to help understand and answer those questions. Particularly focus upon using cross-references to help flesh out the meaning further.

3. After using any study resources you wish to augment your understanding, try to write a summary sentence for this chapter.

additional resources:

- **Let God be God** (TCG podcast)
- **The Absolute Sovereignty of God** (sermon)

WEEK 9 *Lord of all*

skill-building resource:

- Romans Week 9

Romans 10:1-11:36

1. After you read through the passage and make notes, consider using either the “Truths” skill (See Week 6), the “Lists” skill (See Week 4), or any other method that helps you comprehend the contrasts between Jews and Gentiles in this passage.
2. What are some of the “tough” concepts in this passage that you might need to “chew on” because they offer a different perspective than how you might normally think about God? If time permits, utilize other study resources to help you chew further.
3. What is one application that you take away from Paul’s interpretation to the Gentiles (if you are one) -- or the Jews if that is your heritage?

additional resources:

- ***What the Resurrection mean for us*** (devotional).
- ***Deep Wisdom*** (sermon on Romans 11).

WEEK 10

in the light

skill-building resource:

Romans 12:1-13:14

- Romans Week 10
- RH-Applications

1. Do your normal processes with the entire passage, then zero in on the two “sections” of Chapter 12 (12:1-8; 12:9-21) to particularly practice skills as noted below.
2. Write an interpretation/summary statement for each of these two sections. (Feel free to do the same for Chapter 13 as well!)
3. List and designate several “Internal” and “External” applications (Reaching Her Resource) that God impresses upon you from the many possibilities in each of these sections.

additional resources:

- ***Gifted and Talented*** (sermon).
- ***You don't need more self-love*** (short podcast).
- ***A sure hope for the future*** (article).

WEEK 11 *to all nations*

skill-building resource:

Romans 14:1-16:24

- Romans Week 11

Go through your normal processes and feel free to go more deeply in any direction of skills you wish. If you prefer additional structure to consider for your study and/or for discussion in our time together, here are some items taken directly from The Gospel Coalition Resource:

1. What are some modern examples that would be our equivalent to the questions concerning “diet” and “days” (Romans 14:1-7)?
2. According to Romans 14:7-8, what is the guiding principle to navigating these issues?
3. How would you summarize Romans 14:1-15:7 in a single sentence?
4. What do we learn about Paul and his ministry from the greeting he gives in 16:1-16?

additional resources:

- **Do not destroy the work of God** (sermon)
- **How the Gospel upsets business as usual** (podcast)

WEEK 12 *the Only Wise God*

Romans 16:25-27 *skill-building resource:*

- Romans Week 12

Go through your normal processes and feel free to go more deeply in any direction of skills you wish. If you prefer additional structure to consider for your study and/or for discussion in our time together, here are some items taken directly from The Gospel Coalition Resource:

1. What does Paul mean when he calls the gospel message a “mystery” (Romans 16:25)? As you answer, consider Ephesians 3:3-6; 6:19; Colossians 1:26-27.
2. In what areas of your life do you most need gospel strength right now? (Romans 16:25)
3. In preparation for sharing during our last meeting, what are a few truths or applications from this study that have impacted you the most? What skills or confidence in gleaning from the Word will you take away from our time together?

additional resources:

- **Encourage one Another** (article).
- **God strengthens us by the Gospel** (sermon).