

The Power of the Gospel - Romans 1:1-17

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There are some unique things about Romans. Maybe the most unique is this - Paul is writing this letter to a church that he did not plant and that he had never been to. What do you say to someone you have never met? What sort of things do you share? In Paul's other letters he addresses issues facing a specific church or specific people. Given his knowledge of these other churches and people, Paul's other letters are more narrowly focused. Romans is different. He didn't really know these people and, equally important, they didn't know him.

Romans 1:1-7

- A **slave** of Christ Jesus is someone who is _____ to Jesus.
- Paul was previously set apart for the _____, but now he is set apart by _____ and for _____.
- Grace is not the _____ of faith - it's the _____ for faith. Grace has a _____.
- You are called to _____ to _____.

Romans 1:14-17

- Do you feel _____ to serve God?
- I am not _____ of the gospel.
- It ____ the _____ of God that brings _____ to all who believe.
- Question for you to answer this week - What is the gospel? (*I highly encourage you to write it down.*)

The righteousness of God that is revealed in the gospel is not the holy righteousness that **condemns** us as guilty sinners. It is the righteousness God **gives** to all who put their trust in Jesus. That's the power of the gospel. We talked this morning about a few words that come with baggage, but it's not really words that come with baggage. It is people. People have baggage. Things like guilt, shame, and regret can weigh pretty heavy, but there is no heavier weight than sin. You weren't made to carry that load. But I've got good news for you - you don't have to. That burden has been taken care of and the price has been paid.

Next week: Romans 1:18 - 3:20