

## **Romans: Big Idea**

All of humanity stands condemned before God's righteousness. We are way worse off than we think. God rescues a fallen humanity by sending His son Jesus to grant us a righteousness we could never earn but is ours by faith. God is way better than we could ever imagine. By His Spirit God creates a new humanity, from every nation, who will live out the Kingdom to come, in the world right now – all of this fulfilling the Promises He made to Israel.

## **Romans: Transformational Pathway**

- **Know:** We are saved by grace, through faith because God keeps His promises. And by His Spirit, He is making us a community marked by love of God and love of others.
- **Feel:** The hope of the gospel is the only hope that does not disappoint
- **Desire Corrupted:** Life is what you make it – and we can make it all we want
- **Desire Fulfilled in Jesus:** We are incapable of making the life we are made for apart from faith in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus
- **Choose:** Faith in Christ, life in the Spirit, love that has no limits

## **Romans Overview: Big Idea**

**Provide the “Big Picture” of Romans: Paul provides the most theologically coherent, biblically grounded and practically applicable explanation of salvation we possess. No biblical text more fully reveals God’s character and God’s actions to fulfill all of His promises. To understand Romans, is to understand the essence and centrality of faith as the means by which the gospel saves and sanctifies us. No book in the bible speaks more clearly, or systematically about why the world is as it is, why humanity is what it is, and how God keeps his promise to redeem every bit of it.**

## **Romans: Transformational Pathway**

- **Know:** Romans is the deepest, clearest, most systematic presentation of Christian faith in the bible – and by faith in its message we are grounded in a faith that cannot be shaken, and we are transformed in ways that transform those around us.
- **Feel:** Excited to not just study Romans, but courageous enough to believe it
- **Desire Corrupted:** The evidence of life tells me that God does not keep His promises
- **Desire Fulfilled in Jesus:** The evidence of the Scripture shows me that God always keeps His promises – and He does so at great cost to Himself
- **Choose:** To trust the Spirit to open our hearts to hear and trust the message of Romans

**<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup>For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”**

**Romans 1:16-17**

**The righteousness of God in justification is both the divine attribute of righteousness, God's holy and perfect character, and the gift that God gives to sinners through his Son, the righteousness received by sinners through faith, which justifies them before a holy God.**

**(T. Schreiner)**

**The righteousness of God is the divine attribute that describes God as acting in a way that is consistent with his own character.**

**(F. Zaspel)**

<b>Righteous/Righteousness</b>	<b>Unrighteous/Unrighteousness</b>
Path of light	Path of deepening darkness (4:18-19)
Does not go hungry	Craving thwarted (10:3)
Blessings	Violence (10:6)
Blessed memories	Rotten memories (10:7)
Leads to life	Leads to sin (10:16)
Words feed many	Die for lack of insight (10:21)
Desire fulfilled	Dread fulfilled (10:24)
Hope brings joy	Expectations perish (10:28)
Lord is a stronghold	Lord brings destruction (10:29)
Security	Insecurity (10:30)
Delivered from trouble	Captured by trouble (11:6,8)
Life of bearing fruit	Life of coveting (12:12)
Guides others carefully	Leads others astray (12:26)
Life	Death (12:28)
House will flourish	House will be destroyed (14:11)
Treasure	Trouble (15:6)

## The Revelation of God's Righteousness through the Gospel (1:16-17)

<b>Theme</b>	Righteousness in Ruins (1:1-3:20)	Righteousness in the Gospel (3:21-4:25)	Righteousness in the Spirit (5-8)	Righteousness in Election (9-11)	Righteousness in Community (12-16)
<b>Theology</b>	Sin	Salvation	Sanctification	Sovereignty	Service
<b>God</b>	Wrath of God	Grace of God	Peace of God	Plan of God	Will of God
<b>Gospel</b>	Holds All People Accountable	Gives Life to the Dead	Creates a New Humanity	Fulfills God's Promises to Israel	Unites the Church
<b>Man</b>	Without Excuse	Without Boasting	Without Disappointment	Without Words	Without Division

The mystery that was kept secret for long ages, has now been disclosed: God's glory is most fully revealed by rescuing a fallen creation and humanity through the life, death and resurrection of His only son, Jesus. Because salvation is secured by faith alone, through the work of the Spirit, humanity has no ground for boasting, and Jesus is vindicated as King of Glory, worthy of eternal worship.

(Romans 16:25-27)