

THE GOOD NEWS...

Romans 1:1–17

Jumping in!

1) What's the *worst* news you've received in the last year? How did you respond to this news both emotionally and physically?

2) What's the *best* news that you received in the last year? What was your response?

Read: Romans 1:1–17

Digging Deeper

3) What does this passage reveal about the promise of the Good News (v. 2) and the Person of the Good News (vv. 3, 4)?

4) **Verses 8–15** give us interesting insights into Paul's character and motives, as well as the kind of behavior that should mark all true spiritual leaders. What admirable qualities do you see in these verses? (verses to consider: 1 Thessalonians 2:1–3:13)

5) What are the reasons Paul gives for not being ashamed of the gospel?

Cross-Reference Read in Acts 26, we see Paul's experience with the Good

Exploring the Meaning

6) How did his encounter with the risen Christ change Paul's life and purpose?

7) **Read Philippians 3:1–7.** How did Paul's life before Christ cause him to view the message of Christ as "good news"?

8) What was behind Paul's eagerness to travel widely and minister to others?

Summing Up ... "Some people object to terms such as *salvation* and *being saved*, claiming that the ideas they convey are out of date and meaningless to contemporary men and women. But salvation is God's term, and there is no better one to describe what He offers fallen humankind through the sacrifice of His Son. Through Christ, and Christ alone, people can be saved from sin, from Satan, from judgment, from wrath, and from spiritual death."—*John MacArthur*

Time to Reflect on the Text

9) A fellow saint from the past once said, "*Grace is the only thing that can make us like God. I might be dragged through heaven, earth, and hell and I would still be the same sinful, polluted wretch unless God Himself should cleanse me by His grace.*"

With that in mind, how would you respond to someone that says, "*I keep hearing about 'the grace of God.'* What does that mean, and why is it such a good thing?"

10) How can blah, ho-hum Christians recapture a sense that the Gospel is good news, indeed the very best news ever announced?

11) Who in your life needs to hear and embrace God's good news of salvation by grace through faith in Christ?

For further study, see the following passages: 2 Samuel 7:12; Luke 1:35; John 6:44; Acts 1:15–26; Acts 21:11–14, 28; 1 Corinthians 9:16–17, 23; 15:1–4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 12:9–10; Ephesians 2:8–9; Philippians 4:22; 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14; 1 Timothy 6:17; Titus 1:11; 1 Peter 5:3–4.