



## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families

For the week of January 15, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Warm Up

- **What is the Gospel? What does the Gospel do?**

### Romans 1:1-17

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **What does Paul's introduction reveal about himself?**
- **How do these verses fill out your earlier definition of "the Gospel" for which Paul was set apart? (1)**
- **Notice how Paul uses the word "called" in vv.6-7. What does this tell us about what it means to be a Christian?**
- **How has God loved and called you?**

### Not Ashamed of the Gospel

<sup>8</sup>First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. <sup>9</sup>For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you <sup>10</sup>always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. <sup>11</sup>For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— <sup>12</sup>that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. <sup>13</sup>I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. <sup>14</sup>I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. <sup>15</sup>So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

- **What is Paul's immediate goal? (8-15)**

<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."

- **What excites Paul about the Gospel?**
- **What does Paul mean when he calls the Gospel "the power of God"? In what ways is it powerful? (16)**

- **What releases the power of the Gospel into our lives? (16)**
- **What is the righteousness, and how is it different from merely being forgiven? (17)**
- **What does it mean to “live” by this righteousness? (17)**
- **Pray together in light of today’s passage.**



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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, [kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org)*