

# **Essentials for Your Journey of Faith**

## **A study of the Book of Romans**

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# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson One

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### GETTING STARTED – Romans 1: 1 – 17

**“For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed,  
a righteousness that is by faith from first to last . . .”.** Romans 1:17

If you were to receive an anonymous letter, what would be the best thing to do with it? If you receive a letter filled with advice or instructions from someone that you do not know at all, how should you respond to it? In order for a letter to have meaning you must know the credentials and experience of the person who has written it to you. That is exactly where Paul begins his letter to the Romans. They would know him by reputation. Now they, as well as you and I, will know him through his letter.

#### Getting to know the author of this letter to the Romans

1. Why did Paul want to write this letter to the Romans who belonged to Jesus Christ?
2. How does he describe his relationship to the people to whom he is writing?
3. What do you learn about Paul's call, motivation, and passion?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

1. Paul describes himself as “an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God”.  
Discover everything that he says about the “Good News” in this introduction.
2. Write some definitions for the following words that Paul uses. (As these themes are developed in this letter, your definition will change and improve).  
Faith –  
  
Righteousness –  
  
Salvation -
3. Romans 1: 17 is a quotation from Habakkuk 2: 4. In this verse there is an interesting contrast between “the proud” and “the just”. What do you think both the prophet and Paul is trying to communicate.
4. Some scholars have said that Romans 1: 16 – 17 is the best summary of the Good News in the entire Bible. Read these verses in several translations and then try to write them in your own words. How could this help you explain your faith to someone who does not yet believe?

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

1. What is the essential information that Paul wants to convey in this introduction?
2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider this week?

**Responding to God's Word –** Take some time to talk with the One who loves you and has called you to be a saint! The One who has offered you grace and peace in His son, Jesus Christ.

(Romans 1:7)

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 2

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### Qualifying for the Journey – Romans 1: 18 – 2: 16

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them. . . Romans 1:18

There is some very basic and critical information that the Romans must understand immediately about the condition of mankind and his choices and the righteousness of God. It's not a pretty, "feel-good" picture, is it? In fact, if Paul were preaching in our churches today and he started out his sermon like he begins this letter, there might not be many people who would return the next Sunday. Until we grasp the condition of humanity, including you and me, we can not fully grasp the gospel message. So, read on and absorb these essentials.

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### Romans 1:18 – 31

1. How has God revealed Himself to mankind?
2. Describe the various ways that people choose to respond to this revelation.
3. How do you explain "God's wrath" and reaction to these responses?
4. There seems to be a gradual decline in the behavior of the ungodly and unrighteous. What are your observations about this decline?

##### Romans 2: 1 - 16

1. There is another category of people who do not fit into the description of chapter 1, but rather they "pass judgment" on those sinners, seeing themselves as superior. What do these verses indicate about the guilt of everyone?
2. Verses 7 and 13 make it sound as if eternal life can be gained by doing good. While it is always wise to do good, it is never the means of justification, because no one can be good enough, both in actions and in attitudes, to earn God's favor and forgiveness. So what is Paul indicating in these verses?
2. The written law of Moses was familiar to the Jews; the unwritten law in the heart of every person is equally real. Does this have any implications for you and me?

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

1. What is the essential information that Paul wants to convey as he begins his letter?
2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider this week?

**Responding to God's Word –** Take some time to talk with the God who wants to receive glory and honor from you and to hear your thanks. (Romans 1: 21)

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 3

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### EMBARKING ON THE JOURNEY – Romans 2: 17 – 3: 31

**This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ  
to all who believe.**

Romans 3: 22

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### **Romans 2: 17 – 29 - The Jews Are as Guilty As the Gentiles**

1, The Jews were certainly privileged people. They were God's chosen people, but what does the Scripture teach you about their guilt?

2. What was the point of circumcision? – Genesis 17

##### **Romans 3: 1 – 20 – The Law Makes Us Conscious of Our Sin**

What do you think is the point of these verses? What's your conclusion?

##### **Romans 3: 21 – 31 – Here's Great News for the Guilty**

1. Explain the following words. These concepts are very basic for the "journey of faith". Remember – these Romans were new to the faith and did not have the rest of the New Testament, so there's enough information here to get you started!

Righteousness

Justification

Redemption

Atonement or Propitiation

2. Notice the repeated use of the word "faith". What is it? Where does it come from? Is there any difference between "having faith" and "believing"?

In the Gospels – Matt. 8:10; 9:22, 29; 15: 28; Luke 7: 50; 8:48

In John – 1:12; 3: 15 – 18; 36; 11:25; 20: 30-31

In Hebrews – 10: 32 – 29; 11: 1, 6,

3. Can you summarize these 10 verses and personalize them – add "my, me, and I".

#### **Summarizing the Essentials –**

1. What is the essential information that Paul wants to convey in this part of his letter?

2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider this week?

**Responding to God's Word –** Take some time to listen and talk with the God who from the beginning had you in mind when He sent His son, Christ Jesus, to be your Redeemer.

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 4

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### LEARNING ABOUT FAITH – Romans 4

**The words “it was credited to him” were written not for Abraham alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. Romans 4: 24**

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

**Romans 4: 1 – 15 – Abraham’s faith** (Genesis 12: 1 – 9, 15 – 18:19, 21: 1 – 7)

1. What can you learn about Abraham’s faith from these passages?
2. What does the phrase “credited or accounted to him as righteousness” mean?
3. Why is it so important to understand that justification is a gift from God?  
Galatians 2: 15 - 21  
Ephesians 2: 8 – 9

#### Romans 4: 16 – 25 – Therefore – it is by grace for everyone

1. What were Abraham’s obstacles to faith and how did he respond to them?
2. Abraham believed certain unchangeable facts about God. What were some of them?
3. Abraham’s faith is tested again when his son is a young man – Genesis 22. How do you think his earlier experiences in life prepared him for this challenge?

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

1. Go back and review the essentials from the first 3 chapters. What does this chapter add?
2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider this week?

#### Responding to God’s Word –

“Walking in the footsteps of the faith” – (Romans 4:12) What changes would occur in your life if you followed Abraham’s example of faith? It’s risky. It appears to be foolish. It doesn’t follow logic. It might take a long time – maybe even a life time. But, you’re depending on “GOD, who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead”. Yes or no?

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 5

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### Experiencing Peace and Joy – Chapter 5

**Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ . . . and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.**

Romans 5: 1 - 2

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary -

**Romans 5: 1 – 11 - Because of everything that has been explained in the first 4 chapters of this letter, Paul can now go on to explain the benefits of being “justified by faith”.**

1. What are the benefits described in the first 5 verses?
2. “At just the right time” – what comes to your mind as you consider this? – v. 6
3. We do everything that we can to avoid suffering, don’t we? How does our view differ from what is described in verses 2 – 5?
4. Why did God want to provide a way for mankind to be saved from His wrath? There is 2 aspects to this salvation – verse 10. Try to explain what is meant by this verse?

#### **Romans 5: 12 – 21 - By One Man – Contrasting Adam and Jesus Christ**

“We are not sinners because we sin, we sin because we are sinners”. J. Phillips

1. What did we inherit as Adam’s children? What do we receive in Jesus Christ?
2. Did Adam have a real choice? Was this unfair or unkind of God?
3. Underscore the phrase “how much more” or “there’s no comparison”. What does this do for you in helping you to grasp God’s love and grace for those who will receive it?

#### **Summarizing the Essentials –**

1. As we transition to this new information, what is essential to know?
2. What is the most important truth from this chapter that God wants you to consider?

#### **Responding to God’s Word –**

It’s time to write a thank you letter to God for the “gifts” that are described in chapter 5. Or maybe you want to write it to the God the Father, to His Son Jesus, and to the Holy Spirit. Read through chapter 5 and make a list of His gifts to you and as you do remind yourself of how these things are impacting your life now. Perhaps there is something you haven’t unwrapped yet.

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 6

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### You Have Been Set Free – Chapter 6

**But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.**

Romans 6: 22

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary -

##### Romans 6: 1 - 14

##### **Question #1 – Shall we keep on sinning so that God's grace may increase?**

There was a view at that time called "Antinomianism, which declared that God's law was no longer important or valid. God's forgiveness allowed man to live any way he pleased.

Do people still use this idea today? Paul absolutely confronts it in Romans 6: 1 – 14.

1. What realities does the ceremony of baptism represent?  
Acts 2: 37 – 38                      Acts 19: 1 - 5  
Acts 8: 9 – 17                      Colossians 2: 9 - 15
2. What do you think that Paul has in mind when he says to offer "parts of your body" or "members" to God as instruments of righteousness? Verse 13

##### Romans 6: 15 - 23

##### **Question #2 – If we're not under the law, but grace, why not keep on sinning?**

Slavery was often voluntary at this time in history. It provided security and stability for the slave and his family. John Stott says that "obedience is the essence of slavery."

1. We love the idea of freedom, but is anyone really free or is that a fantasy rather than reality? What does Romans 6: 15 – 23 teach you about slavery and freedom?
2. Explain the contrast of being a "slave to sin" vs. a "slave to righteousness"?
3. Now how would you respond to the idea that "As long as God keeps on forgiving, we can keep on sinning"?

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

1. What is the essential information that Paul wants to convey in this part of his letter?
2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider this week?

#### Responding to God's Word –

An excellent title for this chapter could have been "From Death to Life"!

This would be a good time to go back and read Romans 6, focusing on the NEW and ETERNAL LIFE that you can live because of Christ Jesus. Let God reassure you of His gift to you

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

## Lesson 7

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## Struggling with Sin - Chapter 7

**Who will rescue me from this body of death?**  
**Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord!**    Romans 7: 24b - 25

## Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

As you study chapter 7, keep in mind what you have already learned about sin, the law, and our need for Jesus Christ. No one can attain God's approval or salvation through good works, not can any one succeed in living a holy life through self-effort or good intentions.

## Romans 7: 1 – 6 – Released from the law through Christ's death

If the law is no longer my master, what is the new guideline for living?  
Galatians 2: 19 II Corinthians 5: 21

## Romans 7: 7 - 13 – Does the law have value?

For the Jews, the Mosaic Law was held in extremely high esteem. Is that still true?

1. What was the purpose of the law? Is the law responsible for causing sin?
2. Can you think of examples where knowing the law actually entices people to break it?
3. Does not knowing the law give someone an excuse from obeying it?

## Romans 7: 14 – 25 – Why do we, as believers, still struggle with sin?

1. Do you think the struggle that Paul is describing was before he met Christ, before he had enough information, or a struggle that he faced throughout his life?
2. How would you describe the internal struggle that is being described here? What words are used to describe the battle between good and evil?
3. Why do you think "the mind" is emphasized? Verses 23 and 25?
4. Victory – there seems to be only one solution to the problem. What is it?

## Summarizing the Essentials –

1. What is the essential information that Paul wants to convey in this part of his letter?
2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider?

## Responding to God's Word –

**DON'T STOP WITH CHAPTER 7! READ ON – Romans 8: 1 – 4**

The struggles are real, but so is the victory. How does God want you to respond?



# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 8

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### Traveling with the Holy Spirit - Chapter 8

**And if the spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you,  
He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies  
through His Spirit, who lives in you.** Romans 8: 11

"In Chapter 8 Paul shows us that while we are still in this life the body remains unredeemed, but the fact that the spirit has been justified and the soul is being sanctified is a guarantee that God will one day redeem (glorify) the body as well. When we enter at last into the presence of Christ, we shall stand---body, soul, and spirit---perfect before Him." Ray Stedman

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### **Romans 8: 1 – 17 - Alive Through the Spirit**

1. NO condemnation – what does that mean? This is a great opportunity to summarize the Gospel as it has been explained in the first 7 chapters of Romans.
2. Make 2 lists that contrast life according to the sinful nature and life according to the Spirit.
3. Consider the idea of adoption – God has made those who are in Christ to be His children. What does this mean? What difference does this make to you?

##### **Romans 8: 18 – 27 – Troubles Now, But It Is Temporary**

1. All of creation is waiting for that day of redemption. Read Revelation 21 and 22 and make a list of some things that you can anticipate for yourself and all creation.
2. How could the information in verses 26 – 27 help you when you pray?

##### **Romans 8: 28 – 39 – You Can't Get Lost and You Will Win**

1. Write some definitions for the following words:  
Foreknew  
Predestined  
Justified  
Glorified
2. Romans 8: 28 is probably one of the most quoted verses by Christians in all of Scripture. What do you think the verse means phrase by phrase?
3. Verses 37 - 39 are also favorite verses because of their deep reassurance to believers. Put these ideas into your own words.

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

1. What is the essential information that Paul wants to convey in this chapter?
2. What is the most important truth that God wants you to consider this week?

#### Responding to God's Word - "Conformed to the likeness of His Son" - Romans 8: 29

Listen quietly to what God might be wanting to whisper into your heart and mind.

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 9

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### Other People and Places (Israel and the Jews) – Chapter 9 - 11

**“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, & it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”**

Romans 10: 9 – 10

The questions surrounding God’s chosen people, the Jews, were evidently being asked by both the Jews and the Gentiles. Is God’s rejection of His people temporary? Is it fair? Will God really keep the promises that He made to Abraham concerning this nation? Wasn’t their zeal and sincerity enough to please God? Those questions, and many more, are still being asked by people today. Some of the questions have answers; while other issues will remain unanswered in this life. Can you accept that reality?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### Chapter 9 – God’s purpose in election – His sovereignty

1. What advantages did the people of Israel have?
2. What do you learn about God’s mercy and His sovereignty in this chapter?
3. In what ways did the Israelites fail to understand what God wanted?

##### Chapter 10 – The Israelites rejected the “Good News”

1. How does Paul feel about his own people?
2. Contrast righteousness that is by the law and the righteousness that is by faith.

##### Chapter 11 – God’s Plans for Israel Will Be Realized

1. How does Paul explain God’s mercy toward the Gentiles? What is his warning?
2. When you have done your best to understand these mysteries, it is always wise to remind yourself and others of God’s limitless wisdom and give Him glory. Rewrite this doxology of praise in your own words. (Romans 11: 33 – 36)

**Bonus** - Paul uses quotations from 10 different Old Testament books in these 3 chapters. Can you identify them? He really had a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures!

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

1. Summarize the essential information into just 2 or 3 sentences.
2. Are there some important truths that you need to consider personally?

#### Responding to God’s Word –

As you reflect on the content of Romans 9 – 11, where is God taking your mind and your heart? He will speak to you if you quietly wait for His voice to come through the truth of His Word.

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 10

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### Experience the Transformed Life -Chapter 12

**Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—which is your spiritual worship.**

Romans 12: 1

A travel guide would not be complete if it only contained the things that you need to KNOW about your journey and the places that you will visit. It must also describe for you the things you must see, the experiences you will not want to miss, and the various activities that you will want to do. Our travel guide for the "Journey of Faith", the book of Romans, also has 2 sections. With Chapter 12 we begin part 2 – "What You Must Do". Are you ready to embark on the adventure of "living by faith"?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### **Romans 12: 1 – 2 - Changing the way you think -**

1. What do you think Paul means by "offer your bodies as living sacrifices"? How do you see this as being worship?
2. There are 2 options in verse 2 – conforming or being transformed. One is natural and one is supernatural. What part does the "renewal of your mind" have in the process of transformation? Can you think of examples of what transformation is?
3. "Finding God's will" is something which everyone would like to know more clearly. What does verse 2 teach you about it?

##### **Romans 12: 3 – 8 - You're not alone as you travel -**

1. What is Paul's counsel to you about how to view yourself? Why is this advice so important to consider? Does it impact the way you feel about who you are?
2. When we look at "the body of Christ" – worldwide – how does it impact your journey?
3. Make a list of the gifts mentioned in verses 6 – 8. Notice the descriptive words that are added to some of the challenges. Where do you see yourself as "gifted"?

##### **Romans 12: 9 – 21 - Finding your way -**

When you need to find your way to a new location, do you like clear instructions? Does it help you to know what to expect as you travel? It's all very clear in this travel guide. Make your own list – sentence by sentence, using your own words if you can, of the clear and concise instructions that are given to you about what YOU MUST DO.

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

What do you think the writer wants you to remember from this chapter?

#### Responding to God's Word –

God is not asking you to meet these demands on your own! Take some time to remember what you learned about the Holy Spirit who is within you. (Romans 8: 1 – 16) Then ask the Lord to show you where He would like you to change your mind so that He could transform your behavior and you could be free to use your giftedness freely as you travel.

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 11

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### Fulfill God's Requirements - Chapter 13

**"Clothe yourselves with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.  
And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires."**

Romans 13: 14 – NLB

Wasn't one chapter enough? No, it wasn't. There's more to experience and more to see and do on this journey of faith if you want to experience it fully. Besides, you really don't know how much longer you'll have to travel, so why not make the most of it?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### **Romans 13: 1 – 5 - Submitting to authority**

1. When Paul was writing, Nero was the emperor. How do you make sense of these guidelines when there is an evil government?
2. What are the clear instructions in this paragraph for everyone?
3. Do you have questions that you will need to ponder and ask?

##### **Romans 13: 6 -14 – Loving and living**

1. How would understanding that "love is the fulfillment of the law" help the new Jewish believers especially to integrate their past and the present? Does it motivate you?
2. What does salvation (vs.11) mean in this context?  
What does the reference to night and day mean?
3. Do you think that the warning in verse 11 to "wake up" is relevant to our faith journey?  
Consider this imperative both for yourself personally and the church today.
4. How can dissension and jealousy be equated to the other sins of verse 13?
5. This isn't the first time that you have heard about our sinful nature. Take some time to Review Romans 7: 14 – 25 and 8: 1 – 11. What is your conclusion?

#### **Summarizing the Essentials –**

What is the important information for your journey in this chapter?

#### **Responding to God's Word –**

Deciding what to pack in your suitcase so that you have the right clothes for your journey always takes careful planning and thought. Sometimes it is a challenge because of the diversity of the places you will visit and the climate. How will it affect your journey of faith today if you really do "clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ"?

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 12

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### Watch Your Attitude - Chapter 14

**Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace . . .** Romans 14: 19

There are things that are worth defending. They are the primary issues that deal with the central doctrine of the Christian faith – Romans 1 – 8. Then there are all the secondary issues, which are based on tradition, temperament, culture, and personal opinion. When you feel critical of someone else, what is the criteria by which you decide how you will handle the situation?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary –

##### **Romans 14: 1 – 13 - Taking a non-judgmental stance wherever you are -**

1. In this context do you think the one who is “weak in the faith” is an immature believer or one who is still holding on to legalistic traditions?
2. What are the issues that are dividing the people in Rome?  
If Paul were writing to Santa Cruz, what would the arguments be today?
3. Are personal convictions a good thing? What guidelines are given so that judgment and dissension can be avoided?
4. Find all the verbs (dispute, etc.) which are used to describe the problem that is being addressed. What would be the opposite or positive approach to take when there is disagreement?
5. How would believing the truths of verses 12 and 13 release us from a critical spirit?

##### **Romans 14: 14 – 23 – Pursuing peace and encouragement wherever you go -**

1. There is a description of the Kingdom of God in verse 17. Think about it and rewrite it in some words that would help you explain it to someone.
2. Being willing to give up something you enjoy for the sake of another’s spiritual stability is not easy. Can you think of an example of when someone has done this for you or you have done it because you have loved someone else that much?
3. Is it all about following your convictions and your conscience? About not doing anything that is questionable? Is that what Paul means in verse 23 or is there more?

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

Why is this such an important topic for the young church in Rome and for us, as well?

#### Responding to God’s Word –

Judgmental, critical, opinionated, harsh, offensive, inflexible, obstinate, stubborn – these are not qualities that come from the Spirit of God. It’s all too easy to rationalize them as discerning, distinguishing, wise, experienced, discriminating, or consistent. Are you open to having the Lord show you where you should change your thoughts or your behavior?

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 13

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### Overflow with Hope - Chapter 15

**May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the god and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.** Romans 15: 5 – 6

When a teacher gives the final instructions for a project or test, they are always some of the most important ones to grasp. As Paul nears the end of his letter to the Romans, you can almost hear the passion in his voice as he writes about unity and his earnest desire to go to Rome. It is touching to realize that he expects that his visit to Rome will be refreshing to the people there, but that it will also be restorative to him. When people come to visit you, what do they anticipate?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### **Romans 15: 1 – 6 – Can you live in harmony?**

1. Why do you think that unity is so important as we follow Jesus Christ? What would it take to make it a reality? Is it possible?
2. What part do the Scriptures have in helping us to be able to glorify God together?

##### **Romans 15: 7- 21 - Are you “full of goodness”?**

1. How does Paul encourage the people to whom he is writing?
2. There are 2 kinds of people in the world – Jews and all others - Gentiles. What motivated Paul to take the gospel of God to the Gentiles?
3. Sometimes it is good to stop and think about the time when all nations and peoples will stand before the throne of God – Revelation 7: 9 – 17. Do you need this encouragement from the Scriptures today? How does it help your patience and endurance?

##### **Romans 15: 22 – 33 – Will you pray?**

1. A giving church – what can you learn from them?
2. A prayer request – what can you learn from it?

#### Summarizing the Essentials –

Are there some final instructions that you think should be added to your list of “Essential Things to Do” as you experience your journey of faith?

#### Responding to God’s Word –

What is it that you need today? Endurance or patience, encouragement or comfort, joy or peace? Look at verses 5 and 13 and allow the Holy Spirit to fill you completely as you trust in God. Take some time to write a Psalm of petition and praise to Him!

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

Lesson 14

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### Give God the Glory - Chapter 16

**I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.**

Romans 16: 19

It is such an encouragement to people when they are recognized and appreciated. Of course, the glory goes to God, but acknowledging the hard work and faithfulness of people motivates them to continue to persevere. Paul, no doubt, had met these individuals in many of the other cities to which he had traveled. Somehow, he has kept track of them and knows that they are now in Rome. What does this tell you about how Paul valued people?

#### Considering the important ideas and vocabulary

##### **Romans 16: 1 – 16 – Give them my greetings**

1. For what does Paul commend the various people?
2. Why do you think he mentions some of his relatives?

##### **Romans 16: 17 – 27 - Final instructions**

1. Make a list of Paul's final reminders to the people. Are any of these new or has he mentioned them before in this letter?
2. How would verse 20 give hope to the people in Rome for whom life was very difficult?
3. One final doxology which once again shows the heart of Paul.  
Rewrite to make it your own expression of praise.

#### **THE BOOK of ROMANS**

1. How would you summarize this letter in a short speech? Why should all followers of Jesus Christ study it periodically? Why is it called the most important explanation of the doctrines of the Christian faith?
2. What impressed you the most deeply from the first section – "What You Must Know"?

What impressed you the most deeply from the second section- "What You Must Do"?

#### **Responding to God's Word –**

Taking some steps of faith – that means trusting God for things that you can not see, but know to be true. You really don't want to simply see the same scenery, repeat the same mistakes, and have the rest of your days be monotonous, do you? SO what is God asking you to do so that you can experience all that He has planned for you on your journey?

# Essentials for Your Journey of Faith

## A study of the Book of Romans

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