

**A 2023 Recap  
December 31, 2023**

Romans 1:16  
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.

**Let us Think & Give Praise to God**

- How did God use the sermon series **Romans: A thinking Faith** help you to grow closer to the Lord in 2023?
- What sin-fear-weakness did God enable you have victory over in 2023?
- What was the high point of this past year and how would you like to praise God for it?
- Do you feel that you are closer to God now than you were a year ago? How did God bring you closer?

Text: Romans 1:16; 3:9-12, 6:20-23; 5:17, 8:31-39

**#1-Romans Insight: DO NOT BE ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL (Romans 1:16)**

- it is the \_\_\_\_\_
- it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God
- it is the power of God for \_\_\_\_\_
- it is the power of God for salvation to all who \_\_\_\_\_

**#2-Romans Insight: Sin is my greatest enemy, but Jesus can be your greatest victory. (Romans 3:9-12, 6:20-23, 5:17)**

Romans 5:17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

**#3-Romans Insight: God is for us, not against us. (Romans 8:31-39)**

*Big Question: Is God going to change His mind toward you? \_\_\_\_\_*

**“God’s purpose is unchangeable, His power is unchallengeable, and His love is unconditional, so there is nothing I have to fear. I am who you say I am; the Who of my salvation is greater than the who of my opposition and I am more than a conqueror.” – Unknown**

**Truth into Action: 10 good news truths made possible by Jesus Christ!**

1. I am all wrong, but Jesus Christ makes it all right!
2. I am unrighteous, but Jesus Christ is my righteousness!
3. I am worse than I can imagine, but Jesus Christ is better than I can fathom!
4. I am my problem, but Jesus Christ is my solution!
5. I am God’s enemy, but Jesus Christ calls me friend!
6. I am a child of the devil, but Jesus Christ made me a child of God!
7. I am under the wrath of God, but Jesus Christ put me under the love of God!
8. I am a sinner, but Jesus Christ is my Savior!
9. I am dead, but Jesus Christ makes me alive!
10. I am headed to hell, but Jesus Christ is taking me to heaven!

## Connect Card:

- How do you plan to grow closer to the Lord in 2024?



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

## Table Talk

Consider the following obstacles that stop Christians from helping other Christians grow:

(1) You can't help others grow closer to Christ if you are not right with Him yourself—if you are not totally surrendered and desiring to follow Him in every area of your life. **Ask God the Holy Spirit to reveal any area of your life you are not totally willing to surrender to him today and write it down.**

(2) You can't disciple someone to grow closer to Jesus if you are not growing closer to Jesus as well. **Write down where you are growing closer to the Lord.**

(3) You can't share with others what God is doing in your life if you are not letting Him do anything in your life. **Write down what you are asking God the Holy Spirit to bring guided transformation to.**

(4) You can't challenge someone else to spend daily time with God, or to read their Bible, or witness, or tithe, or regularly attend church if you are not already doing these things. **What areas do you need to grow in during 2024?**

(5) You can't lead someone where you've never been. Someone who is not in love with Jesus will never produce others who are in love with Jesus. **How will you keep yourself in the love of God during 2024?**

(6) Some people are just unwilling to take the time or energy to invest themselves in others. **What are some ways you can help others grow closer to Christ in 2024?**