

STUDY GUIDE: A LOVE BEYOND THE FALL AND THE LAW

Scripture Focus: Romans 10:1–13

Series: The Potter's Workshop: Romans 9–11

I. THE HEART OF THE TEXT

In Romans 10, the Apostle Paul pivots from the sovereign mystery of God's choice to the urgent necessity of our response. He addresses the "exhausted runner"—the person who is trying to be "good enough" for God but is constantly stumbling over the Law.

The Big Idea

True faith stops trying to establish a private righteousness and starts relishing a provided righteousness.

II. KEY CONCEPTS & GREEK INSIGHTS

- The Problem: Zeal without Knowledge (v. 2)
 - Greek Word: Zēlos (Intense heat).
 - Observation: You can be passionate, sincere, and "on fire," yet still be on the wrong track. Sincerity is not a Savior.
- The Solution: Christ is the "End" (v. 4)
 - Greek Word: Telos (The finish line/goal).
 - Observation: Christ didn't just "cancel" the Law; He completed it. He is the finish line of the race you couldn't win.
- The Method: Confess and Believe (vv. 9–10)
 - Greek Word: Homologeō (To say the same thing as God).

- Observation: Salvation is not a mountain to climb; it is a gift to receive. It is as "near" as your heart and your mouth.

III. PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. The Running: On a scale of 1–10, how much of your daily "spiritual life" feels like performance (trying to stay wanted) versus relishing (knowing you are already loved)?
2. The Riches: Verse 12 says God "bestows his riches on all who call on him." If God's mercy is an infinite fountain, why do we often live like we are spiritually destitute?
3. The Love: In light of Valentine's Day, how does God's "Love Beyond the Law" change how you love people who have failed you?

IV. THE MONDAY MISSION

- Intercession: Paul had "anguish" for the lost. Who in your life has "zeal without knowledge"? Write their name down and commit to praying for their Epignōsis (true knowledge) this week.
- Confession: When you fail, don't hide. Say, "I am a sinner in need, and Christ is a Savior indeed."

V. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Watch: Re-watch today's message at <https://fsbcpomeroy.org/media>
- Read: Deuteronomy 30:11–14 (The Old Testament passage Paul quotes in this text).
- Join: Find a First Table small group to discuss these truths in person!