

It's All About the Gospel

If we've learned anything in the last year or so it's that the world can be difficult, unpredictable and stressful. We don't hear a whole lot of good news these days... but we need to know about the developing story we're standing in right now. This story has all the things that good news is made of; struggle, overcoming, deliverance and celebration. God is working amazing things through our lives. We aren't writing the story. God is. This is not about us—this is all about the gospel.

I. "Paul's Gospel" to the Romans

A. Romans 1.7 "To all those in Rome who are _____ by God and _____ to be saints. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

1. A reminder of the immense love that God has for them
2. A powerful and honest call to double-down on their calling

B. Romans does what the gospels do, but from a post-ascension perspective

II. Romans 1.16a — Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing "Not Ashamed of the _____."

A. We are in dire straits

1. Romans 3.23 "_____ have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
2. We are broken, we will never rebuild Eden—Christ is the answer.

B. Embrace the power of the risen Jesus

1. Jesus was not conquered by death, and neither shall we be. "_____ with him." Romans 6.3-5
2. Trust in that power that lives in you now. Galatians 2.20

III. Romans 1.16b — "Everyone" Means _____

A. Jews and Greeks couldn't be further apart culturally... which were "closer to the kingdom?"

1. The Jews as "God's chosen" and Gentiles were regarded as untouchables.
2. The Pharisee and the Publican. Luke 18.13. "God be _____ to me, a sinner."

B. If we took a moment to listen to the words of Jesus, we would see exactly what we need to do. (Luke 19.10)

1. _____ the lost, judging no one as untouchables.
2. _____ them by inviting them to take part in the amazing good news of the gospel.

IV. Romans 1.17 — Start to Finish "From Faith for Faith"

A. The gospel is picture of God's love and commitment—a promise, if we step out in faith...he'll be there with us.

B. 2 Peter 3.18. _____ What is the next step of faith for you?

"Obeying the gospel" is not just about being baptized. It's about living a baptized life. Following Jesus in the example of his life—being a light, saying the truth, showing mercy and praising God the whole way. This is the life we can have in Jesus, one step at a time. What's your next step of faith?

