



Session 2 - Romans 1:1-15

Do I read God's Word for knowledge or for transformation?

How do you define transformation?

1. Paul described himself as a servant (slave) of Christ Jesus

- Paul's encounter with Jesus was life-changing: Acts 7:54-60; Acts 8:1-3; Acts 9:1-7
- Acts 9:5: **And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."**
- Paul/Saul's life before Jesus was opposite to the ways of Jesus.
 - What was your life like before Christ?
 - *Paul's Transformation: Acts 9:17 - he received the Holy Spirit*
 - *Acts 9:20 Paul proclaimed Jesus*
 - *Paul's transformation confused the people. "Is he not the man that made havoc in Jerusalem?"*
- When Paul told the Romans he was a servant, he was telling them, "I am like you!"
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- We, like Paul, are called to serve
 - *But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*
Matthew 20:26-28

2. Paul described himself as an apostle

- Paul is telling those in Rome he is no ordinary man; instead, a man who God has given a message which should be received as from God!
- Galatians 1:11-12

3. Paul reminds them about the Promise of God

- (FLESH) Jesus **descended** from David; why is this so important?
- (SPIRIT) Jesus was **declared** the Son of God because of His power to be resurrected from the dead
 - GRACE - God's Reward at Christ's Expense!
 - We are called to be a bearer of Jesus' message for those around us...

4. Paul's introduction of why I want to come

- He was called to proclaim Jesus in all the world
- He prayed to visit them
- His desire to be encouraged and to be an encouragement
- His desire to strengthen one another's faith
- He has a message to share with the people of Rome

5. Paul was not ashamed of the Gospel (Philippians 1:20-21)

- The Gospel is powerful to save, for everyone - both Jew and Greek (Romans 3:22-24)
- The Gospel makes us righteous (Colossians 1:21-22)
- The Gospel reveals our faith in Jesus (Hebrews 10:22-24)

As you read the story about Paul's transformation, what are your takeaways?

- After receiving the Holy Spirit, he proclaimed the Gospel message
- Upon Paul's new found faith, some were confused and some amazed at the change
- Paul sought to encourage the people of Rome and glean encouragement from them

How have you been transformed by the Holy Spirit?

As you read about Paul, do you see areas that need to be transformed in your life?

- Servant
- Commissioned to share
- Standing firm in your faith
- Praying for others
- Encouragement to other believers