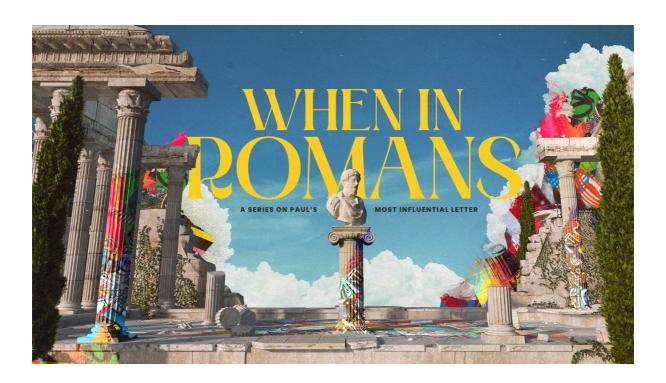
# When In Romans

# Power On Display

Pastor Jeff Atherton



The gospel <u>saves</u> us and <u>shapes</u> us

**Identity** fuels mission

#### Romans 1:1-6 NLT

This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News. *Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority as apostles to tell* Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name. And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ.

When we know why, we begin to live with real power

God gives us a place to belong before He gives us something to do

#### **Romans 1:7-15 NLT**

Let me say first that I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith in him is being talked about all over the world. For I

have a great sense of obligation to people in both the civilized world and the rest of the world, to the educated and uneducated alike. So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach the Good News.

The gospel <u>starts</u> the story and <u>drives</u> the story

The gospel doesn't wear off - it wears into every part of your life

### 2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

### **Romans 1:16-17 NLT**

For I am not ashamed of the *gospel*, because it is *the power of God* that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the *righteousness of God is revealed*—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The *righteous will live by faith*."

Real belief releases real power

<u>Faith</u> is today's <u>fuel</u> not yesterday's <u>memory</u>

The gospel doesn't just <u>save</u> us—it <u>shapes</u> us

# **TALK ABOUT IT - Life Group Questions**

- 1. Was there something in the testimonies or the message stood out to you?
- 2. What does it mean that the gospel "doesn't just save us—it shapes us"?
- 3. How does your identity change when you believe you are "called to belong to Jesus Christ"?
- 4. In what ways have you experienced the power of the gospel in your own life?
- 5. What keeps people from sharing the gospel boldly today?

## **Prayer Focus:**

Pray for boldness to live and speak the gospel. Ask God to reveal where He wants to shape your life more fully through faith.

### **GOING DEEPER - Bible Study**

**Text Focus:** Romans 1:1-17

### **Key Word Study:**

- Gospel What does Paul mean by "gospel"? Compare usage in 1 Corinthians 15:1–4, Galatians 1:6–9.
- Power Greek: dunamis (divine strength, miraculous ability). How does this contrast with worldly power?
- Righteousness What is "righteousness of God"? See also Philippians 3:9.

**Cross References:** Take some time to read these scriptures and see how they connect to what we are studying this week. Take some time to make notes and fully think through the depth of this amazing text we have that connects in powerful ways in its entirety.

- Isaiah 52:7 Good news proclaimed
- Habakkuk 2:4 The righteous shall live by faith
- Ephesians 2:8–10 Saved by grace, shaped for purpose

## **Reflection Questions:**

- 1. How is Paul's calling similar or different from your own?
- 2. Where have you confused gospel information with gospel transformation?
- 3. What would change in your life if you truly believed the gospel had power to shape every part of it?

### **Memory Verse:**

Romans 1:16 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.

#### **REMEMBER:**

The gospel is the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ... That he died on the cross for our sins and rose again on the 3rd day to defeat sin and death!

Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something - GO BE THE CHURCH!

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