

GR R-7 SUNDAY SCHOOL

TERM 1

ROMANS

WEEK 1

21 JANUARY

ROMANS 1:1-17

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
ROMANS- THE GOSPEL**

WEEK 2

28 JANUARY

ROMANS 1:18-32

**ALL ARE GUILTY
(SIN)**

WEEK 3

4 FEBRUARY

ROMANS 2

**THE GOODNESS OF
GOD**

WEEK 4

11 FEBRUARY

ROMANS 3:1-20

THE LAW

WEEK 5

18 FEBRUARY

ROMANS 3:21-31

SALVATION & SUBSTITUTION

WEEK 6

25 FEBRUARY

ROMANS 4:15-25

**SALVATION BY GRACE
THROUGH FAITH**

WEEK 7

3 MARCH

ROMANS 5:12-21

**LOST IN ADAM, FOUND IN
CHRIST**

WEEK 8

10 MARCH

ROMANS 6:1-14 & 23

**DEAD TO SIN, ALIVE IN
CHRIST**

WEEK 9

17 MARCH

ROMANS 8

**WE ARE CHANGED &
GOD'S LOVE**

ROMANS

Lesson 1

21 January 2024

Intro into Romans

Romans 1:1-17

Leaders Notes



Main point

What is the Gospel?

Why did Paul see it as so vital to revolve his life around it?

As we open the Letter of Romans we look at the Gospel of God and who it is for and who it is about.



Bible Passage

Romans 1:1-17

A key focus on: 1:16&17

Leaders Digging Deeper



To start off with Paul introduces himself - Paul is an apostle, a servant, and a preacher- What is he a servant and an apostle of? This is what we need to keep at the front of our minds while teaching all the big ideas through Romans- He is a servant of the Gospel.

The Gospel is the heart of Romans. We, just like Paul has done, should be devoting our all to proclaiming Jesus Christ to all. Paul has a master, it is no longer sin, but is now because of the salvation of the Gospel- God himself, if we too are set apart Christians, we too have this same master and should be slaving to be sharing Christ with everyone.

The Gospel is simply an announcement- a declaration- Good News, about what has been done. We are the 'holders' of this Good News and have a job to declare it. Read carefully through verse 3 and 4. We will never grasp the gospel until we ourselves fully understand it. The Gospel is about a person, not a concept- so lets take a closer look...

God's Son, the man Jesus, was fully human- verse 3.

He fulfilled the promises of Scripture: "a descendant of David" (vs 3)- a King of Israel a millennium before. God had promised David that from his family, God would produce the ultimate, final, King for everyone. David's life (suffering, rule, glory foreshadowed that of his greater descendant)- read more on King David (2 Samuel 7:11b-16 & Psalm 2:22; 110)

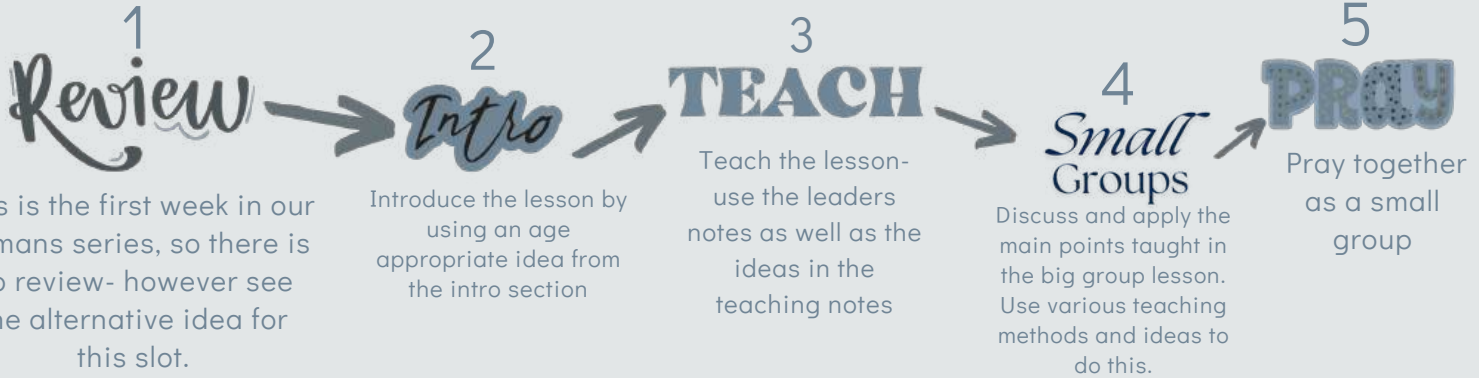
He is divine: Romans 1:4- the Son was "declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead. P.S Jesus did not become divine through the resurrection rather 1) The resurrection removes all doubt that He is the Son of God, and 2) His resurrection & ascension were the path to his rightful place to rule at the right hand of God the father.

Not until verse 4 does Paul actually name God's Son: Jesus Christ Our Lord

Key Verse Reflection

In verses 16-17, we find Paul's nutshell summary of the gospel—his central thesis statement out of which flows the rest of the letter. First, he is not ashamed of the gospel because "it is the power of God" (v 16). Paul is often fond of contrasting "mere" words with power (see, for instance, 1 Corinthians 4:20). Paul is saying that the gospel is not merely a concept or a philosophy. In the gospel, words and power come together. The message of the gospel is what God has done and will do for us. Paul says that the gospel is therefore a power. He doesn't say it brings power or has power, but that it actually is power. The gospel message is actually the power of God in verbal, cognitive form. It lifts people up; it transforms and changes things. When it is outlined and explained, or reflected upon, its power is released."

Lesson plan



1 Review

This week is an introduction to Romans, however if you would like, create a roadmap of the lessons we will be looking at over the term- this will help your class remember the big ideas, main points and all the application as well.

Date	Week	Passage	Title
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4 Feb	Week 3	Romans 2	The Goodness of God
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25 Feb	Week 6	Romans 4: 15-25	Faith What we lost through Adam, we regained in Christ!
3 March	Week 7	Romans 5:12-21	
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17 March	Week 9	Romans 8:1-17	We are changed

THIS WEEK!



Open up in Big Group time with one of the two 'intro to Romans' videos: there is one suited more to younger children, and one for the older kids.

2 Intro

Intro idea is done as a big group.
Each week alternate between leaders who will do the intro idea from upfront.

The main point to hammer home in today's intro slot is that we are SET APART for something.
Just as Paul was. This intro idea will help them see that visually.

First gather all your supplies needed.

For the jar make sure it is completely clear and has a wide enough mouth to be able to stir rapidly. A drinking glass might work, but it might also be a bit too small, it really all depends on the size.

For the food coloring you can use black or green or red. Using black with the yellow oil makes the oil part a bit green, although that can be a good thing because it's supposed to represent sin and that is "icky" so green kind of fits well. You can also use red, although I opted not to because I think of red more in terms of the blood of Jesus and a cleansing property rather than representing sin, which I think is better portrayed using something dark like black or a dark green.



Pour the water into the jar about halfway. Tell the children that the water here represents the world. God originally created the world to be pure and clean and without sin.



Next pour in the oil. As you do tell your child that the oil represents us, as followers of Christ.

Once the oil and water completely separate point out that there is a clear separation, just like there should be for those who love God.



Pick up the food coloring and tell them that the food coloring represents sin. As you drop it into the jar tell them that even though God created the world without sin, sin still entered the world.

Let your child watch how the food coloring spreads and tell them that just like the food coloring, the sin spread all over the entire world. But, point out that the sin passes right through the oil,



Stir very gently to get the food coloring to completely color the water portion without mixing too much into the oil yet. As you do tell them that sin spread and spread all throughout the world and completely covers it, just like the food coloring completely clouds the water now.



Choose a child to help you stir up the entire jar, if the coloring isn't spreading enough then help them along. Stir very rapidly and continuously to spread out the food coloring. As you do, tell them that when we get caught up in the things of the world, we also get wrapped up in sin, because they are entangled together. We can't be OF the world and not sin, this is why God tells us that we are to be IN the world, but not OF it.



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

In Romans we will hear Paul's letter to the Roman Christians, reminding them that they have been saved by the gospel- set apart for something- we will see what this something is.

(To live for Christ- in freedom)

3 TEACH

Today, I need to introduce us to the apostle Paul, the letter he wrote to the Romans, and discuss what he meant by the Gospel, so listen carefully and then we will break into our small groups for more discussion.

1. Who is Paul?
2. Why did he write this letter?
3. Who cares? Right? I mean, why should we care about a personal letter written by someone 2,000 years ago?

I want to begin with a little glimpse at the third question.

Let's look at Romans 1:16-17. This is like Paul's thesis statement for the whole letter.

Will you read this out loud with me? - *have everyone read together either on a slide or in their bibles.*

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."

Wow! There's a lot packed in there.
I want to focus in on this phrase.

The Gospel, the Good News, is "the power of God for salvation."
In order to get at the question of "who cares?" Well, I want to ask this fundamental question:

Saved from what?

When a person feels desperate, like they are going to lose something valuable or are going to die, then that person is looking for one thing: salvation. Saving from something. In fact do you know that even you wouldn't be here at Sunday School today if you didn't know that you needed saving from something?

We'll get back to that.
Let's look at the first question:

Who is Paul?

When we first meet Paul, he goes by his first name, Saul. We meet him back in Acts chapter 8. Paul went from overseeing the stoning of Christians to becoming a Christian himself, and at one point he himself was stoned for proclaiming the gospel, he had so many rocks thrown at his body, bones crushed, to the point that the people actually thought he was dead. But he survived, got up, and kept telling people about Jesus.
Can you imagine what his body must have looked like?

Why did he write this letter?

Paul is in Corinth. He has been collecting money from the Gentile churches in order to help the people in Jerusalem, because there was a big famine and the church was suffering from hunger. Paul's big plan was to go all the way to Spain, which was, from his perspective, literally the end of the Earth. He knew that if he wanted to get to Spain, he was going to have to go through Rome, and he would need the help of the church there. So, he writes this letter to introduce himself, and to explain to the people in that church what he is all about, and how he defines the Gospel.

So, here is, perhaps a more accurate picture of how Paul sees the Gospel. God's massive restart is bringing the Good news of God's faithfulness, demonstrated through Jesus, and in the power of the Holy Spirit to all nations. Not to convert them to a new culture, but to transform them within their own culture to know the love of God.

Now, we get to our big question. Paul writes to the church in Rome, who is divided between the Jews and the Gentiles, and says, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation, first to the Jews, and also to the Gentiles."

So, what about us today? What is the power of the Gospel in the twenty-first century

I think the answer to that question is different for everyone.

Some of us need to be saved from bondage of some kind. Something has a grip on your mind and heart that is not allowing you to experience the love of God. If you feel like it is difficult to believe that God loves you, or if you have difficulty loving and/or forgiving someone else, or if you struggle with loving yourself, then you are in bondage and need to be saved from it.

The truth is, we all are.

What is it for you today?

God is faithful to God's promise. God became flesh in Jesus to show us the way of life. The Spirit brought Jesus back from the dead and that same Spirit is poured out on all people, to give us the faith to know that we can be saved.

God has saved us through the Gospel (Good News) of His son Jesus Christ- but we have been saved from what? From sin- For what? to proclaim Him to all!

Don't become comfortable in just being saved- then you will forget that the Gospel is powerful!



Break into small groups
(make sure all children know where their new classes are and who their friends are)

Discussion questions

Make sure your small group goes away with the understanding that the Gospel Paul was so eager to share with the Romans is about Jesus Christ, it makes us right before God (righteousness)

Ask the children to share how they received the Gospel- share your story with them/ retell Paul's conversion.

Ask them what makes them ashamed to share the Gospel sometimes?

Why does Paul say we shouldn't be ashamed to share the Gospel? 1) It is a powerful Gospel vs 16; 2) It is a Gospel for all (vs16)

- Who does the Gospel save?- Everyone vs 16
- What do you think could happen if we forget the Gospel is for everyone?
- Paul feels he just has to share the Gospel with everyone- why do you think he feels like this?- Paul knows the truth that everyone needs saving from Sin- and the only way is through the Gospel. Because Paul has received the Gospel and believes it- He knows he now needs to share the Good News.
- Do you feel the same way?

Activities and Games for Small Group Time

Today's Small Group Activity Time will be spent EQUIPPING The children in ways they can 'be like Paul'- have means and ways of sharing the important Good News

Please note, these games & Activities are here to help drive home the main idea.

1. Cut & Fold Cross

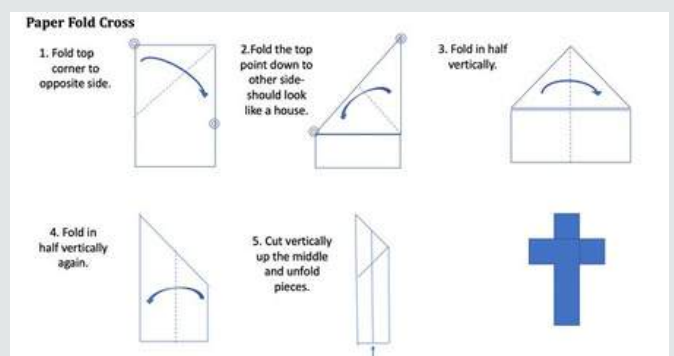
Write "Jesus loves you!" in the center of a [sheet of paper](#).

As you follow the instructions, you can mention how life can seem like it's folding us up and causing a lot of wrinkles. You may add how this is like sin - when we go our own way and not God's way. It causes problems in life and separates us from God.

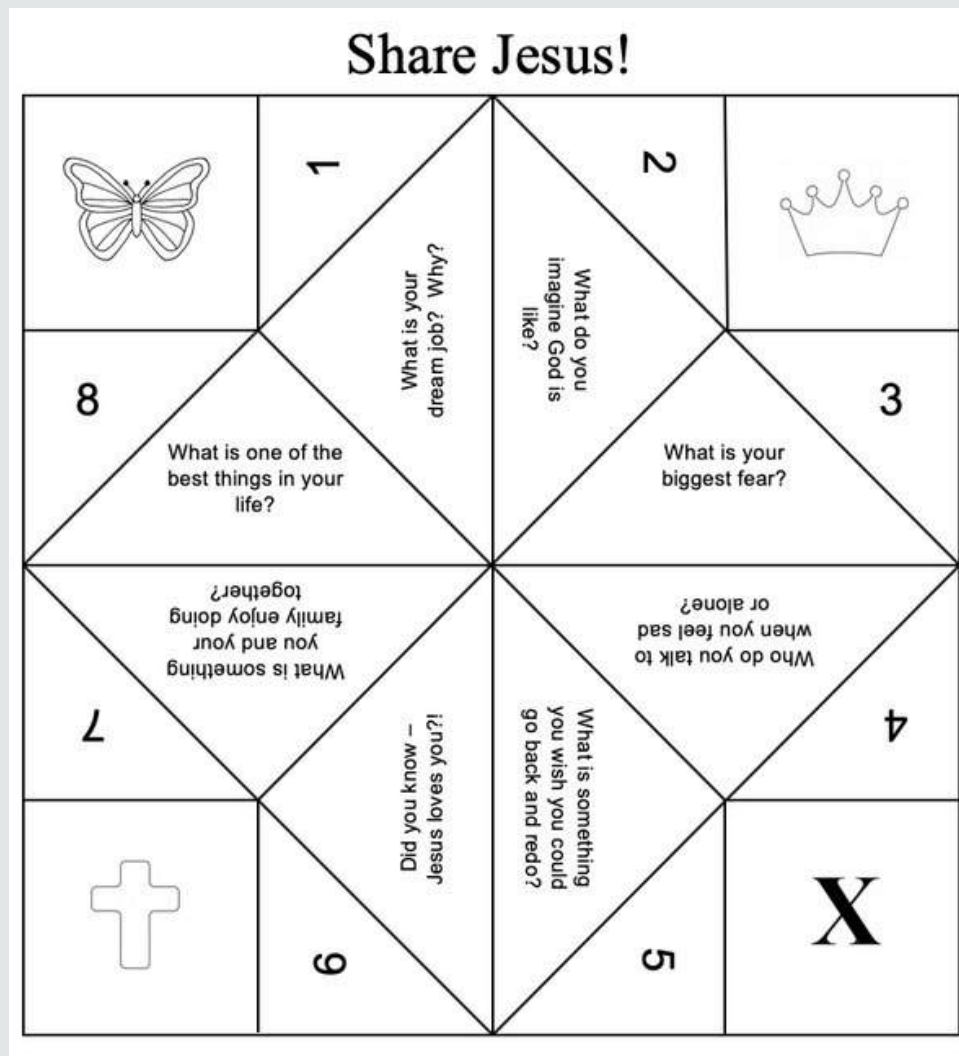
At one point it looks like a house. This can bring up the topic of family and how God wants us to be a part of His family.

As you [cut](#), notice the pieces falling away. There are many things in our own lives we wish we could cut away. Only God can forgive and make us new.

Reveal the cross, God sent Jesus to die on a cross to make a way for us to have a relationship with Him again. Jesus loves you so much! At this point, your own personal story of how you came to see your need for Jesus and accept His free gift of eternal life would make a big impact. A witness just shares what they've seen and heard.- Just like Paul did and saw was so important.



All PDF
printables
available on
Google Drive
Folder



- Use the outside pictures as the choose one.
- Crown - God rules over all. He is Creator and King over all creation. Genesis 1:1 - "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."
 - X - We usually get an X when we get something wrong. We all have done wrong; we've chosen our own way instead of loving God. This is called sin and separates us from God. Romans 3:23 "For we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
 - Cross - Jesus left heaven, came to earth, lived a perfect life and then died on the cross to pay for the price of our sin. God raised Jesus from the dead though and we can accept His gift of eternal life! John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His One and Only Son, that whoever will believe in Him will not perish, but have eternal life."
 - Butterfly - When we turn away from going the wrong way away from God and turn back to Him asking Jesus to forgive us and be the Savior and Lord of our life, the Bible says we are a new creation like a caterpillar turning into a butterfly! 2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

Crayons/Colors

Teach children or youth to use the eight basic colors to share the Gospel. Colors are all around us and are great conversation starters into talking about Jesus!
(Perhaps Continue this while doing a coloring in worksheet)

Purple – Jesus is the King of Kings; He is fully God & rules over all.

Orange – Jesus was fully man; He understands.

Red – Jesus is Savior; His blood brings forgiveness for our sin when we believe & trust in Him

Black - Jesus is more powerful than sin, death & darkness.

Brown - Without Jesus, my life is fragile and empty.

Green – Jesus gives new life, eternal life.

Blue – Jesus is always with me through His Holy Spirit.

Yellow – Jesus is preparing a home for believers in Heaven.

GAME

Gr R-3

Broken Telephone

The person starting the game thinks of a word or phrase and whispers it into the next player's ear only once, with no repeats allowed.

That listener tries to correctly repeat that same word or phrase into the next player's ear. The last person in the line or at the end of the circle repeats the phrase or word aloud.

Allow a moment for giggles if the message is "broken" or changed. The player who started announces the correct word or phrase.

Players take turns thinking of the next phrase or word to pass through a whisper.

Try and include the whole of verse 16 for the Gr 3's, perhaps phrase by phrase

Other words you can include are:

- Gospel
- Set Apart
- Powerful
- Justified
- Romans
- ashamed



LINKING IT ALL **TOGETHER**

I is our job as Christians to share the Gospel with our friends who do not know Jesus- are you telling people about Jesus?

GAME

Gr 4-7's

Topic: Telling others about Jesus
Game – Hidden Treasure

Use this game and to challenge the way the kids think about sharing Jesus with their friends.

As Kids search for hidden treasure with no direction from their friends, they will learn how important it is to share the most important News about the most important treasure of all: Jesus.

Opening Game – Hidden Treasure

Supplies:

A “treasure” (something like enough sweets for the winning group)

Clues written down to the location of the treasure: both true and false clues

Before the game starts, hide the treasure somewhere in the classroom, or outside, if that works.

Split the kids into two groups.

Choose one kid from each group and pull them aside. Tell them where the treasure is, but tell them that they cannot give their teammates any clues at all.

Send them back to their groups and tell everyone to start looking for the treasure—without giving them any rules or clues to where it may be.

After teams have been looking for a while, start passing out clues. For every true clue you give the kids, also give them a false clue.

After the kids run around confused for a few minutes, eventually give them enough true clues to allow one of the groups to find the treasure.

Ask:

Wasn't that a confusing treasure hunt?

Did the false clues make it a lot harder to find what you were looking for?

Wouldn't it have been easier if I had given you directions at the beginning of the game?

Say: Now, I'm going to confuse you all just a little bit more. What if I told you that (names of students you pulled aside at the beginning) knew where the treasure was the entire time?

Pause and allow students to react.

Say: That's right, they knew exactly where the treasure was. They even knew that some of the clues I gave you were wrong!

If they had spoken up, your entire team would be enjoying sweets right now!



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

Ask:

What kind of friend keeps their mouth shut when they know something that could help their friends?

Say: Sadly, a lot of you may be that kind of friend this year.

You see, as you go back to school, you're going to rub elbows with a lot of people who don't know Jesus on a daily basis. You may even become close friends with some of them.

Ask:

What kind of friend would you be if you didn't tell them about Jesus?

Say: If you know Jesus, you already have found the greatest treasure in the entire world.



Keep track of prayer requests
your small group may bring
up as well as who they plan
on sharing the Gospel with-
start praying for these
people that God would
already be working in their
hearts

A rectangular sheet of yellow paper with horizontal blue lines. A vertical red line runs down the left side, creating a margin. At the bottom right corner, there are four small, hand-drawn decorative icons: a purple flower, a yellow smiley face, a red speech bubble with a white heart inside, and a green squiggle.

ROMANS

Lesson 2

28 January 2024

All are Guilty
(SIN)

Romans 1:18-32

Leaders Notes



Main point

God has revealed himself to us- therefore we have no excuse for living a life of sin.



Bible Passage

Romans 1:18-32

A key focus on: 1:20-21

Leaders Digging Deeper



After writing about the righteousness that comes from God through faith, Paul points out that those who lack this faith will face the wrath of God. Many people today are inclined to downplay the wrath of God and speak only of His love.

God's wrath (vs 18) is settled, right and fair, and it is being revealed right in front of us everyday- Paul does not say- The wrath of God will be revealed. It is being seen now! This leads us to ask 2 questions: 1) Why is it being revealed? and 2) How is it being revealed? The rest of Chapter 1 answers these 2 key questions.

Older grades and possibly even Gr 3 teachers- please note vs 26-27 is one of the most controversial passages in Scripture, it is the longest passage in the Bible on Homosexuality- as a cultured and well traveled Romans citizen, Paul would have been very familiar with long-term, stable, loving relationships between same sex couples That does not stop Paul using it as one of the examples he gives in which God has given humans over to their desires- to experience the consequences- the due penalty. The Bible is clear both in the NT & in the OT that active homosexual sex as a settled unrepentant pattern of behavior is an attitude of rejection of Jesus as Lord (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

While homosexuality is a sin, it is one of many- all sexual immorality is sinful- see verse 29-31 "all kinds of wickedness" and they all deservedly bring God's wrath (vs 18).

The overarching sinfulness is that human beings suppress the truth for a lie.

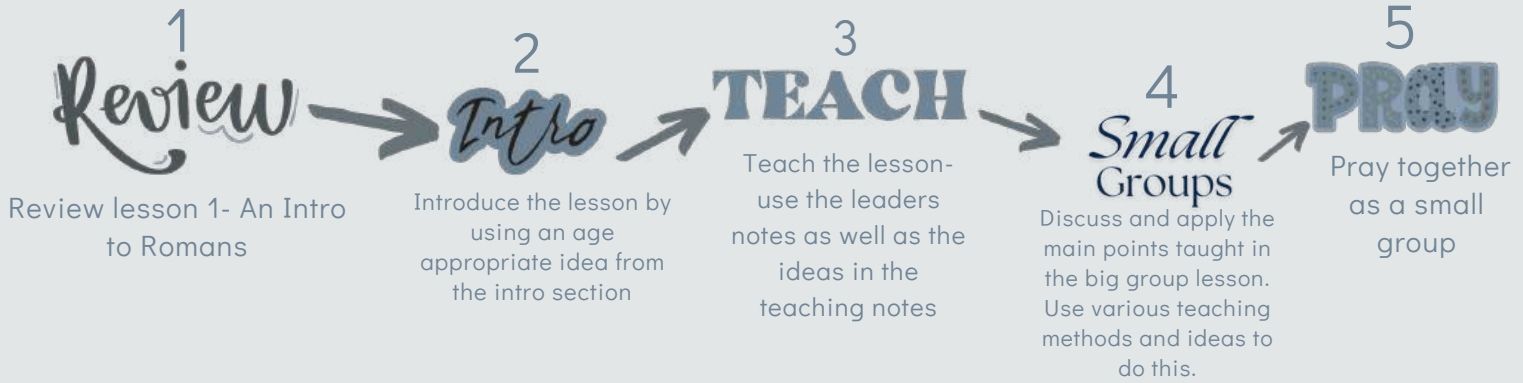
They worship created things rather than the creator- all levels of idolatry.

We also approve of those that practice wickedness.

Key Verse Reflection

We have to read these verses in light of verses 16 & 17., Remembering that we do not need to fear God's wrath because we have received God's righteousness. This gives us the freedom to ask "What idols could be or already are fighting for a position where Christ should take center in my heart and life. This passage should push us to love, feel and live differently and change my heart.

Lesson plan



1 Review

Please note- this week's passage follows on significantly from last weeks lesson with a 'FOR' in verse 18. We go from 'what is the Gospel' to now looking at no one has any excuse to ignore the Gospel- as well as our huge need for the Gospel.

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17 March	Week 9	Romans 8:1-17	We are changed

THIS WEEK!



Take a look at the Drive marked Review- there are some images to help your class Review each week and remember what was taught the previous week.

Intro

Intro idea is done as a big group.

Each week alternate between leaders who will do the intro idea from upfront.

The main point to hammer home in today's intro slot is to highlight our sinful nature

Hand out small pieces of paper- 3 to each child about the size of a post it.

On the first one, write or draw a person you know who never or rarely listens to their parents

On the second one, write or draw a person you know who is really greedy with all they have.

On the third paper, I want you to think of the worst sin you can possibly think someone can do- ever.

Fold them all up and place them in a big glass see-through jar- Place at the front of the classroom- keep this there so all the 'sin' is VISUAL.



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

**Do you know: God did not create us to sin- nor do we actually have any excuse to sin
We will look at this more and why our sin is actually very serious to God when we look further at Romans 1**

3 TEACH

Today we are going to be looking at the seriousness and the depth of ignoring the Good News that God has given to us- The Gospel

Last week we looked at who the Gospel was about- Jesus Christ, and that it is for everyone- so much so that this week Paul goes on to say that absolutely no one has any excuses for ignoring or going against God.- vs 19- "because God has made it plain to them". He goes on to say that even since the beginning of the world God's invisible qualities have been made known and been able to be understood by all- so that no one has any excuse.

Let us be careful to not judge those who do not believe the gospel, but rather be grateful that God has allowed us to accept the truth and forgiveness of the Gospel.

Lets take a look at what God means when He says

- 1) No one has any excuse
- 2) He has made Himself known to everyone

Imagine if you had absolutely no one who you knew that loved Jesus, had heard about Jesus or that even had seen or knew a Bible existed- how else would we know about God? - if there are no answers or unhelpful answers- Go a bit deeper into God's invisible qualities:

Older kids might want to watch a [quick 2 min video of Romans 1:20 and how we see God in creation. Video on Drive.](#)

Younger kids you may want to print out various creation pictures (flowers, sunrise, mountains, rain, human beings, etc- talk about how God has and is visible in all of these things- Has he always been seen in creation? Has he ever changed? no- only sin changes creation and we will look more at that just now.)

Why are we talking about God's creation when we are also talking about Sin?

Romans 18, comes straight after last weeks lesson on the Gospel- it reminds us that why the Gospel is needed- We all ignore God all the time. Whether it is ignoring the sin in the world, our own sin or just refusing to glorify him in all He has made for us to enjoy.

No matter who you are- you will have sinned- just think about the post-its from earlier- there is so much Sin in this world, and we all know that and can see that.

But we don't always think about the fact that God has told us that by continuing in our sin- for example if we continue lying, and lying and lying- and not repenting of this- God will punish us by giving us over to our SIN- this is the worst punishment EVER!

EXAMPLE 1 Imagine you were bugging and bugging and bugging your parents to go and play on the busy main road outside even though there were cars driving at 120km/h and they said no and no and no again but you just kept bugging them. So eventually they said YES!- would this be loving- NO, it would not be, but God has given us a just punishment because He has still allowed us time and time again to repent of our sins and see His love and glory- He has given us the opportunity to not ignore him- yet we continue to ignore Him so his punishment is to allow us to sin!

EXAMPLE 2

Have a leader talk and talk to you about something very important- but completely ignore them- there needs to be consequences for ignoring the message they were sent to share- link this to how us ignoring God has consequences of our own sin.

All our idols are both the cause and the consequence of Gods anger.

Example: When we disobey our parents over and over again and every single day, and continue to do so- God is angry with us- he lets us do this because we do not say sorry, instead we continue in this sin- our punishment from our parents is one thing, but our punishment from God is that he allows us to keep disobeying our parents because we don't want to obey him- that is scary stuff

We are going to talk a bit more in our small groups about what we can do to ask God to Help us obey Him rather than continuing in our sin- and what our response should be when we do disobey him because no one is without excuse for ignoring God.



God has saved us through the Gospel (Good News) of His son Jesus Christ- but we have been saved from what? From sin- For what? to proclaim Him to all!
Don't become comfortable in just being saved- then you will forget that the Gospel is powerful!



Break into small groups
(make sure all children know where their new classes are and who their friends are)

Discussion questions

Make sure your small group goes away with the understanding we need the Gospel to be saved from our SIN- the biggest and scariest SIN we can continue in is ignoring GOD and in turn God will let us.

Last week we learned about the Gospel of God and the POWER it has to save!
This week we are looking deeper at what we actually need saving from!

Don't forget when leading your small group, stick to the 3 R's
RECAP- Open up your small group time asking the children what did they think about what they just heard- what stood out to them?
Ask them something slightly more specific- What did "-----" say about how God sees our sin?

REINFORCE- Talk more around the details from Romans 1:18-32: Use the following questions to aid you.

- If you asked 100 people what was wrong with the world, what answers would you get?
- If you asked those same people how to fix it, what would they say?
- What do we learn about God's wrath from vv. 18-21?

- 1.It is real. It is presently being revealed (v. 18).
- 2.It is against evil people. It has come as a result of "godlessness" and "wickedness" in people (v. 18).
- 3.It is well deserved. It is right for God to be angry, and he is justified because the wickedness of mankind is without excuse (v. 20) as they deliberately ignore him (v. 21).

REINFORCE- It is helpful to reinforce through Games, activities and crafts- make sure you have the main point clear in your own mind so it comes across clearly in your small groups during this time

Reflect: We need to check our hearts- lets ask ourselves: What is more important to us than God?

an idol is "anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, and anything that you seek to give you what only God can give." Essentially, an idol can be anything that takes the place of God as the most important focus and priority in our life.

Leaders: Have a pre-empted list of things you see your age group struggles with and perhaps challenge them to spend more time this coming week either praying/reading about God than on their idols.

Activities and Games for Small Group Time

Today's Small Group Activity Time will be spent Reinforcing the idea of SIN and the seriousness of it.




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Google Drive
Folder

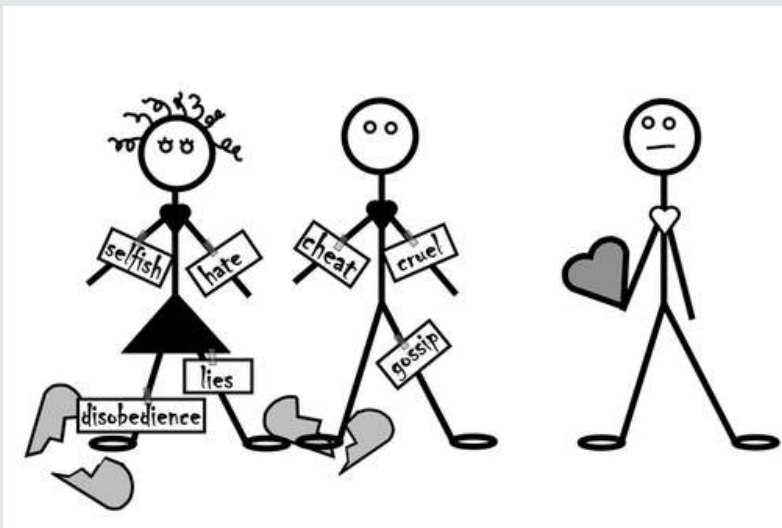
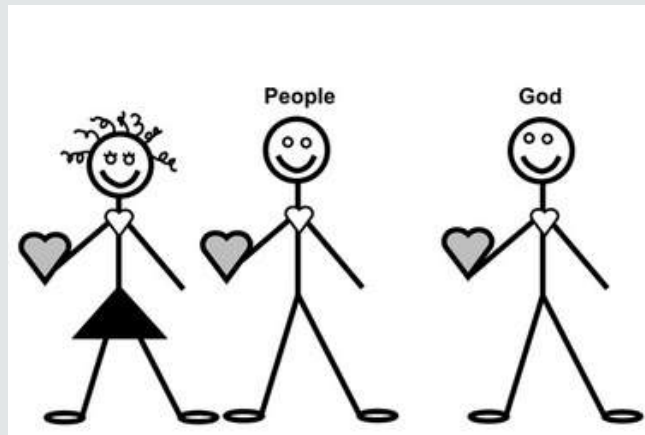
Please note, these games & Activities are here to help drive home the main idea.

The Bridge For Kids

This is a great illustration for SIN

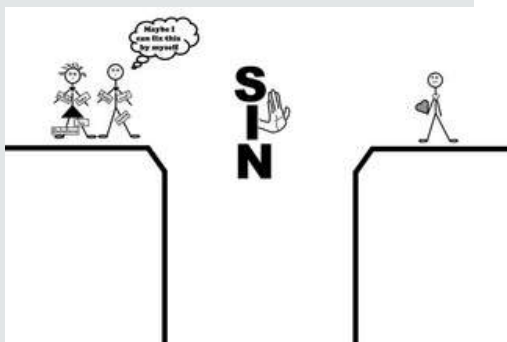
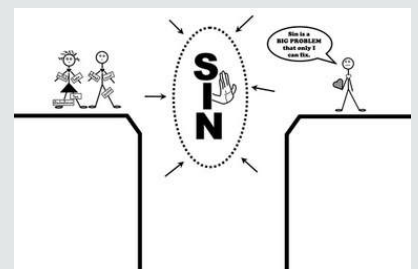
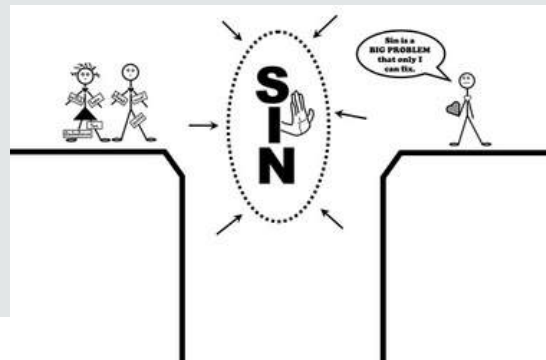
* Original Illustration by Bill Hybels. Rewritten for kids and illustrated with “stick-men” 😊 by Teresa Klassen
Full size images on the drive

We matter to God. He made us and He has always loved us and wanted to share his love with us in a very close friendship. In the beginning when God first made the world we did have a close friendship and our hearts were clean and right. (Point out: Who is God and who the people are in the picture. Point out how God is sharing His perfect love with all the people. Point out how God's heart is clean and how people's hearts were clean too)

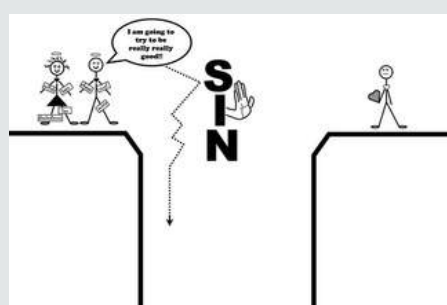


2. But people disobeyed God and threw away His love and did whatever they wanted no matter what God said. They did all kinds of bad things – lying, cheating, gossiping, murder; they were unkind to other people and selfish and cruel – all of these things are called sin. Our sin is ugly and it sticks to us and makes our hearts unclean. (Point out: how people are no longer happy and how God is disappointed. Point out how people threw away God's love. Point out how there are all kinds of sins sticking to people. Point out how God's heart is still perfect, but now people's hearts are darkened by sin)

3. Our sin got in between and pushed God away. Our sin now meant that God is here and we are there and we can't be together...ever. (Point out: how sin pushed God away and created a big gap between us and God. Sin separates us from God)

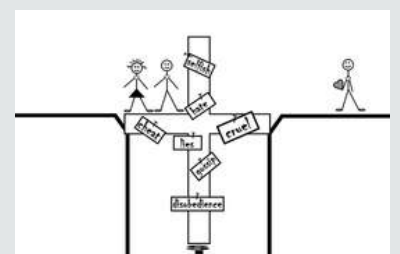


People often think they can fix this problem by themselves. (Point out: the man saying “I can fix this”)



4. So they try to be really, really good. But you know what...that doesn't fix it. (Point out: how the people are smiling nicely and trying to be really good. Then point out how even doing really good things doesn't get rid of our sin problem)

None of us can DO THINGS to find our way back to God, we can't earn forgiveness at all. There is only one way for us to be with God in a close friendship. Someone has to pay for our sin; someone needs to forgive us. (Point out: how sin is still a really big problem and how God is saying that He is the only one who can fix it)



GAME

Game – Red Light/Green Light:

Have the kids line up at the end of the room and explain that when you say Green light they can take steps towards you, but when you say red light, they have to stop! If they don't stop, they have to go back to the line.



LINKING IT ALL
TOGETHER

Traffic rules are meant to keep us from accidents.

Remember last week, we talked about how God has given us the gospel, Well he made the water and the sky and all the animals and finally he made people. but...

We all, always sin.

God sent Jesus to mend the broken friendship. Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sin

GAME

Obeying Game

This is a little game about obeying. Just as our moms and dads give us rules to keep us safe. Jesus invites us to obey His good rules that because he loves us!.

So let's see how well you can obey...

The kids are too young to play "Simon Says" so just have them follow some fun little actions to see if they can copy you...and use phrases like "Way to obey!" "Good job obeying"

Scratch your head Smile the biggest smile you can smile

Jump one time Sit down and then stand up

Close one eye etc.

Laugh

Clap your hands

Hug someone

Activities/Crafts for Older Kids

You will find a wordsearch on the craft drive on Sin for older kids- this might help spark a discussion on what Sins they may need to turn from so God does not give them over to their sins.

GAME

All ages

Get the kids to draw or write down their idols

Then stick them up/ stick them on boxes

Have nerf Guns/ scrunched up paper/ plastic balls and see how many of their idols they can destroy

The more idols they write down, the more targets they have

They are not allowed to destroy other peoples idols.



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

God has revealed himself to us- therefore we have no excuse for living a life of sin.



Keep track of prayer requests
your small group may bring
up as well as who they plan
on sharing the Gospel with-
start praying for these
people that God would
already be working in their
hearts

A vertical sheet of yellow paper with horizontal blue lines. A red vertical margin line is on the left side. At the bottom right corner, there are four small, hand-drawn decorative icons: a purple flower, a yellow smiley face, a red heart inside a speech bubble, and a green squiggle.

ROMANS

Lesson 3
4 February 2024

Romans 2

The Goodness of
God

Leaders Notes



Main point

The fact that God is the only true righteous judge yet still provides Grace shows us His Goodness.



Bible Passage

Romans 2

A key focus on: 1:20-21

Leaders Digging Deeper

How are you finding teaching Romans?
What has been the biggest conviction for your heart so far?

Going further Romans seems like we are just talking about sin, sin, sin! But this is so important. Because if we do not understand the need for our saving from our unrighteousness and that God is the only one that can provide this saving- we won't think we need repentance. And that is a dangerous place to find ourselves in.

In this chapter we look at the danger of being brought up 'righteous' or in our context possibly brought up with the knowledge of the Bible and God's promises, but still continuing in our sin.
Look at Romans 2:3

3 So when you, a mere human being, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment?

At this point in Romans, Paul calls us to really question our own attitudes- perhaps this reminds you of the Sermon on the Mount? (Matthew 5:21-22)

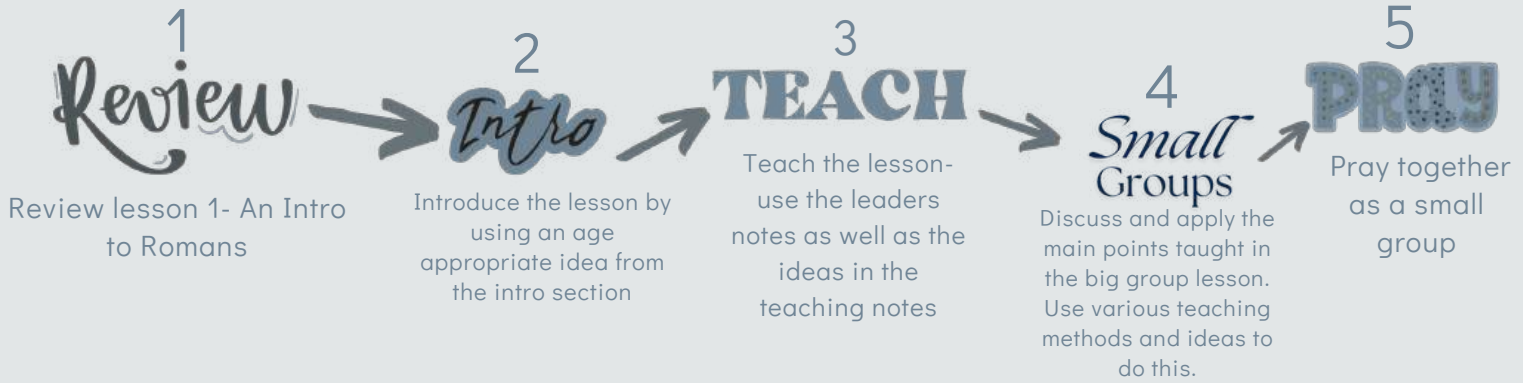
Those who know the truth are literally storing up wrath for themselves when they judge others for the wrong things they are doing.

GOD IS NOT CONCERNED WITH YOUR PRIDE OR GOOD DEEDS_ HE IS CONCERNED WITH A CHANGED HEART

Key points for looking at Romans 2 for kids

This section is heavy. Try not to get too bogged down in the issues of Jew-Gentile relationships or circumcision or the law. The big issue is captured in v1 and is all about not being a hypocrite. He's not saying we can't ever judge anyone. But he is saying that anyone who looks down at someone else without realising that they're just as guilty before God, is being a hypocrite (see Jesus' words in Matthew 7:1-5). Even the most religious people need to realise that they have nothing to brag about before God. They are sinners, just like everyone else.

Lesson plan



1 Review

Review lesson 1 and lesson 2

ASK

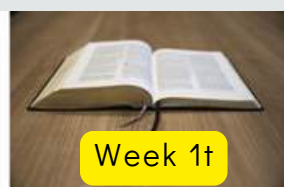
What did we learn about the Gospel of God & What did Paul have to say to us about Sin

Date	Week	Passage	Title
21 Jan	Week 1	Romans 1:1-7 & 16-17	Introduction
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4 Feb	Week 3	Romans 2	The Goodness of God
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18 Feb	Week 5	Romans 3:21-31	God takes our place (Salvation and Substitution) Salvation by Grace through
25 Feb	Week 6	Romans 4: 15-25	Faith What we lost through Adam, we regained in Christ!
3 March	Week 7	Romans 5:12-21	
10 March	Week 8	Romans 6:1-14& 23	Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ
17 March	Week 9	Romans 8:1-17	We are changed

Take a look at the Drive marked Review- there are some images to help your class Review each week and remember what was taught the previous week.

Use picture 1 & 2 to help with the Review questions

THIS WEEK!





Intro idea is done as a big group.
Each week alternate between leaders who will do the intro idea from upfront.

The main point to hammer home in today's intro slot is to highlight judging one another

Use 3 or 4 Leaders to act out the following scenario



- Pick 3 Kids or Leaders to act as the very strict and over-judgmental judges
- Have 2 leaders stand in front of the judges applying for a certain role or job perhaps as their parent-give the judges a sheet to rank them on see example.

Judge score for being a parent

Can you cook:

What is your best quality?

Will you do homework for your child?

Will you allow lots of screen time?

Will you buy lots of toys?

(Ask lots of appropriate age questions which will get your group judging which is the better candidate for a parent)

Remember your 'parent candidates' must be very different from each other so if one answers " I will allow no screen time, the next one must say "they can have as much screen time as they like"

If you are on Intro for this week- please communicate with the leaders you will be using to assist you- so everyone knows what they must do before Sunday!



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

Romans 2 tells us that even if we are Christians we are just as unrighteous as the non- Christian when it comes to our Sin- the only difference is God and his Goodness to us. Therefor God is the only one with the authority to judge our sin.

3 TEACH

Before you start today's lesson please get this straight with the kids:
Christians & Non- Christians' sin is the same in Gods eyes!
Our punishment will also be the same- we saw that last week.

But there is one difference

God's Goodness!
What is God's Goodness?

God's Goodness put simply is God himself giving us time to say sorry to Him for all our sins. Don't forget- we saw in CH 1- God's goodness is for everyone and we can all choose to either accept it or suppress it- and knowing our sin and how bad it is should make us very scared to reject God's Goodness because one day there will be no more time for God's Goodness, and the opposite of God's goodness is God's Judgement!

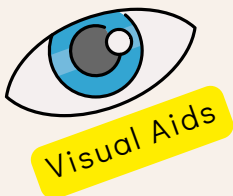
Read Romans 2:1-4

Last week we saw that no one has any excuse for not knowing the truth about God- but in Chapter 2- Paul talks more to the Jews- now the Jews were very similar to who you and I are today- they were called back in Bible times, religious people, why? Because they were brought up knowing the promises of God, they were taught the law and the prophets and all the Old Testament, why is this similar to you and I, well for starters you and I are at Sunday School- which means you are being brought up by somebody who knows that coming to church is important because this is where the truth is taught, lots of you have Christian parents and they teach you Old and New testament stories as well as when its tough they remind us that Jesus has promised to never leave or forsake us.

We have everything knowledge and teaching that the Jews would have had to- this is a huge blessing. But in Romans 2 Paul knows everything that Christians have been given- we didn't have to wait until someone decided to share the Good News with us- our parents helped us know it from young- but we still sin! And that means we are in need of Gods forgiveness

Whenever we sin- we forget the goodness of God, how can we be reminded of the Goodness of God- funnily enough we need to look at our sin- if we don't see how serious it is we won't see the need for God.

Try keep the teaching section short this week- leaving more time for discussion and application in small groups



There is a video on the drive to either just help you apply this lesson for yourself- or you could play a section of it for the older group

Here are some Visual Aids to help you punch home the main idea in Chapter 2.
Please feel free to write this teaching section in your own words and just stick to the main point.
The PDF images are saved on the Google Drive

1



Christians & Non-Christians

2



All Sin is Equal in God's eyes

3



Our punishment will be the same

4



God's goodness

5



God has given us time

6



...to say sorry

TIME FOR A
BREAK

Break into small groups
(make sure all children know where their
new classes are and who their friends
are)

Discussion questions

Last week we learned how we need the Gospel to be saved from our Sin and that the biggest and scariest Sin is continuing in our own sin and that God will allow this!

Don't forget when leading your small group, stick to the 3 R's

RECAP- Open up your small group time asking the children what did they think about what they just heard- what stood out to them?

Ask them something slightly more specific- What did " _____" say about how God has shown us his Goodness?

REINFORCE- Talk more around the details from Romans 2:

Use the following questions to aid you.

- Have you ever gotten the wrong first impression of someone? Tell me about it.
- Why do we not have the right to judge one another- whether we are a Christian or a non-Christian- what is the same in all of us? [SIN] vs 1
- What happens when we do judge others? vs 3
- Even though we consistently judge others, what has God given us? Read vs 4

REFLECT-

If someone told you they were good enough for God- what would you say to them- do you think someone can be good enough for God? Why/why not?

Why do you need the Gospel?

How can we daily remind our hearts of our need for the gospel when we feel proud of how good we've been.



Romans overlaps a lot
Have your group Read
together and memorize
Romans 3:9&10

Activities and Games for Small Group Time
**Today's Small Group Activity you can choose
if you would like to highlight God's grace
over our sin or our need for God's grace
because of our sin**

Please note, these
games &
Activities are
here to help drive
home the main
idea.



All PDF
printables
available on
Google Drive
Folder

PLAY

WARNING
MESSY!!!!

ALLERGIC

Check for allergies

Bananas are enjoyed all around the world. They are full of goodness, (Goodness of God) but they are easily bruised and can quickly turn to mush. Like many fruits, they can be extremely sweet and a delight. But they can also be easily bruised and turn rotten. They make a great object lessons on how we look at the outside to judge (Judging one another) the inside and also on how we treat one another, how we express the fruits of the spirit to others, or we cause hurt to others.

Banana Grab - (Played like the game of spoons but with bananas) - Have everyone sit around a table and put one banana for each person in the middle of the table. Take one Banana out so there is one less banana than the number of people. Have one person deal four cards to each player. The goal with the cards is to get four of a kind (4 Aces, 4 Kings, etc.) To start the game the dealer will take one card from the remaining deck. They must decide if they want to swap the card out with one of theirs or pass it to the left. If they swap it out, they must pass one of their previous cards to the left, leaving them always with four cards. The person to the left does the same thing with the passed cards and the cards continuously go around the table. When someone has four of a kind they can grab a banana. Once one person has four of a kind everyone else can grab a banana at the same time. Shuffle and deal again, removing one spoon each time and eliminating a new player!

Banana On a String - Tie strings around several peeled bananas and hang them from the ceiling. Ask for volunteers to race to see who can eat the banana first without touching it with their hands. Increase the difficulty by using unpeeled bananas.

Banana Rugby -

Teams of youth must score goals by throwing a banana into a bucket which is guarded by a goal keeper. Split the group into two equal sized teams who each choose a goal keeper. The keeper will be placed on a stool holding a bucket on the opposite side from his team. Players may not run with the banana. You cannot touch the player in possession of the banana. You can only pass the banana with your hands. A team loses possession of the banana if a member takes more than one step before passing it. Players have a 10 second count to throw or it is an automatic turnover. If a pass is intercepted, is batted to the ground, or goes out of bounds it changes possession. The opposing team starts their turn from where the banana comes to rest. More than one banana in the game means more action! You can also make sure the girls are included by requiring each pass from a guy to be made to a girl and vice versa or only allowing girls to score.

GAME

Tag Ball



Need:

- Clear open area
- Tennis ball

Instructions:

- Begin with two children throwing a ball to each other.
- The child who has the ball can tag (without taking a step) any child near him/her.
- If tagged, that child joins the other two children tagging.
- The ball is now thrown between three children.
- Continue until all children have been tagged.

LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

- In the end we all got tagged.
- We all ended up being in.
 - The Bible says we are all the same.
 - We ignore God.
 - We fail to love him properly.
 - We're all the same when it comes to sin.

Create



Use Toilet Rolls, cardboard, pencils and craft glue to get the kids making their own judge paddle

On it stick the verse- or if they are able to write it the can write, Romans 2:3/ Romans 3:10

If you use Romans 3:10 Keep one in the classroom as part of your Recap lesson for week 4

This will be a great visual aid in reminding them that all our sin is equal in Gods eyes and His goodness is our only hope at Salvation.

Activities/Crafts

All PDF/ Printable are found under small group folder on the drive

5

PROW

group

For this week during your prayer time, try and focus on points of thanks to God and His goodness to us. Listen to the song "The Goodness of God" while they have a piece of paper and write on their own what God has done or given to them.

THIS WEEK

Keep track of prayer requests your small group may bring up as well as who they plan on sharing the Gospel with- start praying for these people that God would already be working in their hearts

ROMANS

Lesson 4
11 February 2024

Romans 3:1-20

The Law

Leaders Notes



Main point

We need God's rules to see that we are sinners.



Bible Passage

Romans 3:1-20

A key focus on: 3:20

Leaders Digging Deeper



Let's take a look at the Law

What the Law does

1. To demonstrate the Holiness and Righteousness of God – The first thing we learn from the Law is the character of the Law-Giver. In His perfections God is setting the standard of conduct for people if they are going to know Him and live in relationship. That standard is also perfection, it has to be, because God is a perfect, holy, and righteous God.
2. The holiness of His people – By keeping the commands of God as a corporate people, the Jews would demonstrate themselves as different and separate from the nations around. God gives the Law to His people and not to the nations.
3. To reveal our guilt and give knowledge of sin (Romans 7:7-9) – While all this is good so far, the truth is that the Law presents us with a significant problem in our humanity. We don't keep God's Law.
4. To show us that our goodness and good works cannot save us (Romans 3:19-20)

The Law Points Us to Christ-The law serves as a teacher, revealing our need for Christ and His redemptive work. Recognizing our inability to keep the law perfectly, we turn to Jesus, who fulfilled the law on our behalf. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life, fulfilling every requirement of the law that we could not. God's laws are a reflection of His character, which is exactly why they are an impossibly high standard that fallen human beings can never meet perfectly. Only God is holy and perfect; He alone is good and righteous. In articulating specific laws to govern man's behavior, God was revealing Himself. Consider the ten commandments. Such a simple list, yet impossibly difficult to keep perfectly, especially as we view them through the words of Jesus. In His teachings, Jesus both elevated and simplified the Law of God. The Law was given to expose man's sinfulness; it was never intended to make men righteous. By declaring the Law, God was being gracious. He was showing us our need for an imputed righteousness not gained by obedience to the Law – a righteousness that would come as a gift of grace through Jesus, by faith.



Romans 3:19-20 – “Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God; because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.”

Lesson plan

1
Review

Review lesson 1-3



2
Intro

Introduce the lesson by using an age appropriate idea from the intro section



3
TEACH

Teach the lesson- use the leaders notes as well as the ideas in the teaching notes



4
Small Groups

Discuss and apply the main points taught in the big group lesson. Use various teaching methods and ideas to do this.



5
PRAY

Pray together as a small group

1 Review

Use the following Recap picture to get the kids to tell back what they Remember from previous weeks lessons:



Week 1†

The Gospel



Week 2

All are guilty and without excuse (creation)



Week 3

Our sin should cause us to repent due to God's goodness towards us

THIS WEEK



Take a look at the Drive marked Review- there are some images to help your class Review each week and remember what was taught the previous week.

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2 Intro

Intro idea will highlight the Law.

True or False

Decide whether you will give the kids t/f papers to hold up or if they must stand if the statement is true and stay sitting if the statement is false. Another option is to go to the left if the statement is true and the right if the statement is false (The only problem with the last option is they can still choose to stay in the middle- no choice)

Today's game we are going to look at some of the weirdest laws in South Africa, the rest of the world and in the bible- your job is to decide if the laws I'm telling you are True or False- they are strange so think think think...

SOUTH AFRICAN LAWS

- It is legal to walk an elephant on a Public Road in South Africa **FALSE**- it is illegal
- It is illegal to own an ostrich in an urban area- **TRUE**
- In South Africa, brewing traditional beer for commercial purposes without a license is illegal- **TRUE**
- It is illegal to sell or supply liquor to anyone under the age of 20- **FALSE (The age is 18)**
- In some tunnels in South Africa you are required to honk your horn before entering- **TRUE**
- it is legal to use fortune-telling, or any similar practices for financial gain- **FALSE**- it is illegal according to the Witchcraft Act in SA

WORLD LAWS

- In New York, you cannot take a selfie with a tiger. **TRUE**
- In Texas, it is against the law to sell your eyeball. **TRUE**
- You are only allowed to walk cows down the street in daylight in England.- **FALSE You cannot walk cows down the street in daylight**
- It is a crime to "wilfully and wantonly disturb any inhabitant by pulling or ringing any door-bell or knocking at any door without lawful excuse"- **TRUE** (WE call this prank tok tokkie)- It is illegal in the UK
- It's illegal to wear hot pink hot pants on a Sunday after midday in Australia- **TRUE**
- It's illegal to dress up as Batman and Robin in Australia- **TRUE**
- It's illegal to use your vacuum between 10pm and **8am** at weekends- **FALSE- BUT**-It is illegal to use the vacuum cleaner between 10pm and **9am** on weekends in AUS- there is also a time during the week you are not allowed to use the vacuum.

BIBLE LAWS

- There are 693 laws in the Bible- **FALSE (There are 613 laws)**
- Don't cut your hair nor shave. (Leviticus 19:27) **TRUE**
- Any person who curseth his mother or father, **must be killed. (Leviticus 20:9) TRUE**
- Women are not allowed to wear the clothing of men (or the other way around for that matter - Deuteronomy 22:5) **TRUE**



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

The fact that we don't even know all the rules there are means we can't possibly keep them

We know we have all broken at least 1- probably this morning (perhaps mention respecting your parents- loving your brothers and sisters- anger etc) Remember all sin is the same in God's eyes. He knows we can't no matter how hard we try keep rules- but he gives us rules for a purpose.

3 TEACH


Take a moment to think about JUDGEMENT DAY 1) How do you imagine it? How do you picture yourself standing Infront of God? What do you think God will say to you? Did your teacher or any or any of your teachers ever have a teachers pet? A favorite in the class- how did this make you feel? Sometimes people think God will have favorites on judgment day- But God does not show favoritism- God has one standard- His laws are for all...

When we look back at Romans 2:2 We see God tells us how He will judge us- All God's judgement will be based on TRUTH.

But whose truth do you think- Well that's what we are looking at this week- When God comes back God will judge all according to what they have done.

Take a quick look at God's standard for **righteousness**- being made right in God's eyes. Sin is ultimately the breaking of the law (10 Commandments) in word/spirit/ thought And the truth we see in ~~the~~ Bible is that no one is righteous not even one- no one has ever kept the law of God- no one is good enough for God- at this point it might be helpful to really drum home the fact that we all break the law by looking at he 10 commandments in Exodus 20. Also there is a video to aid your lesson on the drive. So we have looked at many laws and seen we cannot keep any of them- does this means we will never be let into Heaven- or how do I get into heaven if I cannot keep God's law- I cannot meet God's standards. Remember before we look at that- we need to know we don't deserve God's love or grace or forgiveness- He doesn't need us to be God and King of the whole universe- it is the complete opposite we need Him! We need what He has provided the only way into His heaven- the only escape from Hell is God's forgiveness- nothing we can do will gain us eternal life- you can be the most amazing person but you will never be good enough in God's eyes unless you have received what God has provided.

There are 2 videos on the drive to assist you in teaching this weeks lesson.



Today's Small Group Activity focuses on what is True- this fits in with Gods law being the only standard we should hold ourselves against- knowing we can't- This leads us to turn only to Jesus.

TEACH➔➔

Read John 14:6.

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

This scripture reminds us that there is no other way to God than through Jesus.

Ask: What does that mean? How do we "come to the Father"?

Allow a few responses from students.

In the Old Testament, we read how the Jewish people tried to obey the Law, and they couldn't do it.

So, they gave sacrifices to God, to gain His approval and cover their sin.

Then, God sent Jesus as the ultimate sacrifice for our sin.

Because of His sacrifice, not only will we not suffer the eternal consequences of our sin, but we will receive an eternal reward for following God.

All He asks of us is that we believe and confess Jesus as Lord and Savior.

We can't earn salvation – it's impossible.

We can't be good enough or do enough good things – sin still separates us from God.

God has provided the only solution to sin and separation from Himself, and that is Jesus.

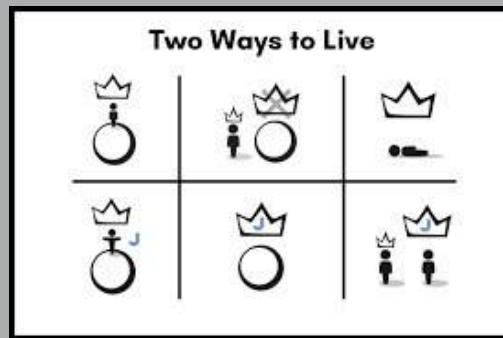
You have the opportunity to come to the Father, God, and accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

Salvation is free – freely accept it.

Show the video of 2 ways to live- In your small groups continue the conversation around picture 2 and 3- Our failure to rule under God's rules (10 commandments) and God's judgement therefore.



Visual Aids



Continue in small group time



Break into small groups
(make sure all children know where their new classes are and who their friends are)

Discussion questions

Last week we learned how God has given us time- in His Goodness to repent from our sin. This week Romans continues to point us to our sin- through the law- The law is not bad- but instead it is just what we need to see that we need God.

Don't forget when leading your small group, stick to the 3 R's

RECAP- Open up your small group time asking the children what did they think about what they just heard- what stood out to them?
Ask them something slightly more specific- DO you think what you do on a daily basis, following rules etc makes you good enough for God: follow up with Why or why not?

- Why can we never Do anything to make ourselves righteous?- we are sinners by nature
- Who is the only righteous one- Jesus
- What do you think this means that Jesus is the only righteous one?- What can He provide for us?- He is the only one who can make a way for us to be made right with God.

REINFORCE- Look more at rules in everyday life and how we fail- Is it nice to fail?

- Do you know it actually makes God sad to see our Sin- He doesn't like our sin anymore than we do- that is exactly why He provided a way for us to be seen as righteous in His eyes- Because He wants to see us as forgiven.
- Punishment should always fit the crime and when we disobey we deserve to be punished- but by God's standard because God made the law- so God makes the punishment- His punishment is death-

REFLECT-

Spend some time thinking about how you will answer God when He asks you on Judgment Day "why should I let you into my heaven?" DO you deserve to enter eternal rest that God dwells in why/why not?
Has your punishment been paid for- if not you need to make sure as soon as possible you are standing right before God because He can come back even tonight and you need to be ready!

REMEMBER!



Memorize
Romans 3:9&10

Activities and Games for Small Group Time
Today's Small Group Activity focuses on what is True- this fits in with God's law being the only standard we should hold ourselves against- knowing we can't- This leads us to turn only to Jesus.

Please note, these games & Activities are here to help drive home the main idea.




All PDF
printables
available on
Google Drive
Folder



GAME

Stoplight.

This game is a quick activity that can be done with no props.

Start by shouting out, "Green Light". Let kids walk around the classroom, talk, and mingle. You can even let them dance if you want to! Then, after a few seconds or minutes, say, "Yellow Light." At this time, students have to slow down and go at a snail's pace. They can still move, but it has to be slow! Finally, end with "Red Light," and have students completely stop in their tracks. You can continue over and over with as much time as you have.

RULES:

Green light means you can talk, dance and mingle

Yellow light means you can still move but now no talking and slowly

Red light means Freeze- no moving and no talking.

See how long children can play this game while OBEYING the RULES!

TALK ABOUT HOW EVEN WHEN WE HAVE JUST 3 RULES in a game we struggle to continuously listen to them.

ACTIVITY



Get your small group to play the match up game of the 10 commandments while discussing how we fall short in each area- point out that this highlights our need for Jesus- imagine if we didn't know any rules- would we know we were doing wrong in God's eyes- Thank God for showing us His rules and ask Him to help us say sorry when we don't live up to His standard.



The PDF printable of the match-up game is available on the 'small group folder' on the Drive

GAME

Get Moving

10 Commandment cups

Need:

- 1 foam ball
- 10 large plastic beverage cups labeled with the 10 Commandments

- How To Play:

1. Divide class into 2 teams and have the teams line up behind the toss line.
2. Give the first person in line the ball.
3. Read one of the 10 Commandment questions from below.
4. The player must try to knock over the cup down that has the Commandment on it that the questions applies to. Only allow rolling of the ball. No throwing the ball allowed!
5. A point is scored for the team if he/she successful at knocking that cup over. Keep scoring tally marks on the whiteboard or on paper.
6. Rebuild the 2-layer stack and then have play continue to the next player. The team with the most points wins.

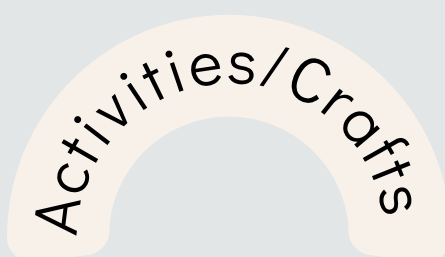
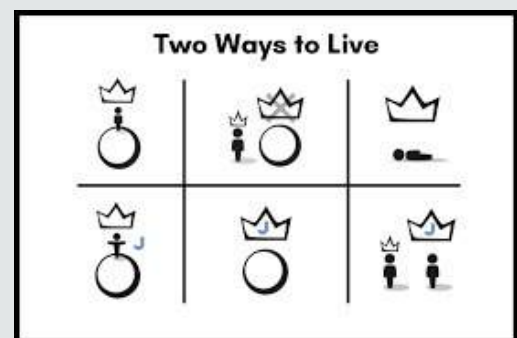


LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

Gods law being the only standard we should hold ourselves against- knowing we can't- This leads us to turn only to Jesus.

Create

Spend some time on the worksheet on 2 ways 2 Live- there are a variety of different options on the craft folder so choose a specific one to what you want your small group going home being able to tell back- for example if you give them the whole worksheet make sure they know what each picture means otherwise it's pointless- so you might want to print out the words and verses as well- otherwise just focus on picture 2 or 3 on how we fail at obeying God's law and that's why we need Jesus- Romans 3:10



All PDF/ Printable are found under small group folder on the drive

5

PROW

group

For this week during your prayer time, Thank God for showing us His rules and ask Him to help us say sorry when we don't live up to His standard.

THIS WEEK

Keep track of prayer requests your small group may bring up as well as who they plan on sharing the Gospel with- start praying for these people that God would already be working in their hearts

ROMANS

Lesson 5
18 February 2024

God's
Righteousness

Romans 3:21-31

Leaders Notes



Main point

The magnitude of our sin makes God's righteousness an even greater gift.



Bible Passage

Romans 3:21-31

A key focus on: 3:22-26

Leaders Digging Deeper



Martin Luther said that Romans 3:21-31 is "the chief point, and the very central place of the Epistle, and of the whole Bible." Leon Morris says it "is possibly the most important single paragraph ever written."

So- Take note- why is Romans 3:21-31 so hard hitting and important to the Gospel?

Perhaps you have been finding Romans up until now very depressing and gloomy- Today's passage starts with the word 'BUT,' I don't know about you but I did a little happy dance when I read that small word- it signals a turning point- but let us not forget what we needed to recognize before we got to this but.

This section we are coming to takes us back to Paul's big verse in 1:16;17 and begins to unpack it Look at the structure and understand Paul's significant argument

1:16, 17- God rescues all believers, but only believers

1:18-32 This is because God is rightly angry with everyone else,

2:1-3:8 Including people who have Bibles (religious insiders).

3:9-20 Everyone by nature is under sin and therefore under his righteous wrath (having a Bible just makes us see this more clearly).

So Paul has now established the NEGATIVE TRUTH, now Paul is moving on to answer the question 'How is the righteousness of God revealed in the Gospel of Christ?' There is a close parallel in 1:17 and 3:21

1:17... in the Gospel...the righteousness of God... is revealed

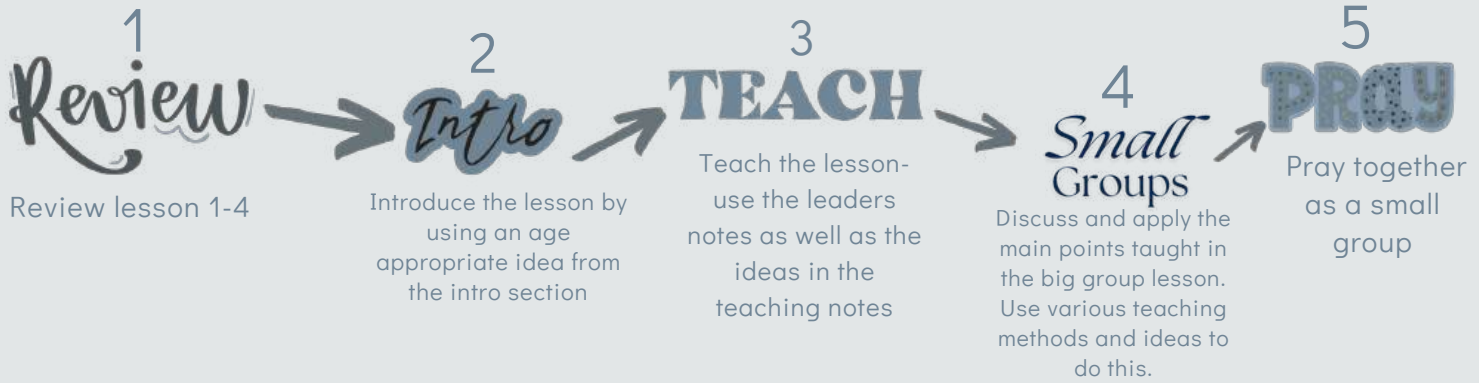
3:21 But now.....the righteousness of God.....has been made known....

1) None of us are loyal or faithful to God by nature, the only way we can receive God's righteousness is through faith in Jesus Christ- Jesus was the only loyal obedient servant to God. (vs 21)

2) This righteousness is for all- the reason it is for all is because ALL have sinned- and all need God's righteousness! There is no distinction between humans rescue comes only to those who come empty handed (1:18-3:20)

All who are declared righteous, have been justified. How?- Through propitiation of their sins through the sacrifice of Jesus- take time to really understand these BIG WORDS

Lesson plan



1 Review

Use the following Recap picture to get the kids to tell back what they Remember from previous weeks lessons:



Week 1t

The Gospel



Week 2

All are guilty and without excuse (creation)



Week 3

Our sin should cause us to repent due to God's goodness towards us



Week 4

The law points us to our need for Christ

Date	Week	Passage	Title
21 Jan	Week 1	Romans 1:1-7 & 16-17	Introduction
28 Jan	Week 2	Romans 1:18-32	All are Guilty (SIN)
4 Feb	Week 3	Romans 2	The Goodness of God
11 Feb	Week 4	Romans 3:1-20	All have fallen short (The Law highlight lesson)
18 Feb	Week 5	Romans 3:21-31	God takes our place (Righteousness Revealed) Salvation by Grace through
25 Feb	Week 6	Romans 4: 15-25	Faith What we lost through Adam, we regained in Christ!
3 March	Week 7	Romans 5:12-21	Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ
10 March	Week 8	Romans 6:1-14& 23	
17 March	Week 9	Romans 8:1-17	We are changed

THIS WEEK!



Take a look at the Drive marked Review- there are some images to help your class Review each week and remember what was taught the previous week.

Intro idea will highlight God's Justice



Use the leaders in your Age group or print scripts and highlight the different script sections to get the kids involved (for the older kids)

This script is taken from Kids wise material- it highlights God's perfect Justice- it works best if you have adapted the words to fit your context and age group as well as memorized as much as you can to interact with the kids as well.

ACTORS

PROPS



- Narrator
- Mr Jones/Judge
 - Sally
 - Sam
 - Props:
 - Two caps
 - Spray can
 - Table and chair
 - Pile of papers
 - Judge's hammer
 - Judge's wig and coat
 - Basket for picking apples
 - Paint brush
 - Paint tin

Please find the script on the drive - it was too big to manually copy into this material

Alternatively you can download it from Kidswise website: [Gods perfect Justice Drama](#)



LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

We have all thought, said and done wrong things.

And God can't let us go unpunished.
God must punish sin.

But the amazing thing is that God has stepped in and taken our punishment for us.

Jesus, our judge, took our punishment.
He did this when he died on the cross.

God will not let us go unpunished.

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But if we ask Jesus, he will take our punishment for us.

3 TEACH

Introduction:

Lets talk a bit about fairness in the world today- when do you feel like something has been unfair towards you: Perhaps you and your brother/sister did something bad together, but your punishment was much worse than theirs because your parents said “well you should have known better”, or “its your job to set a better example” (allow for kids to comment a bit on when they have felt unfair times. Talk a bit broader now- what about when we speak of fairness, do you think it's fair that some of us are able to eat breakfast just because we can afford food? Whereas other kids don't even get 1 meal a day- {show an image of a starving child}- or what about the people living in the country of Gaza who can't go anywhere but have to just endure a war- hoping they don't get bombed or killed while 2 nations argue through fighting, not concerned about killing people. At this point to drum home the image of unfairness- show a clip from Michael Jacksons song “Earth song” there is a shortened clip on the drive, but I encourage you to sit and listen to the whole song to feel the yearning of a need for God to come and judge yet save too.

Main Point

Today we hit a turning point in Romans- up until now Paul has shown us that we are all guilty and have no way of being saved unless we turn from our evil desires- which are so easy to fall into- He has highlighted these past 4 weeks just how evil our human nature is- what good is there? Well here's the good news- the more you have understood the greatness of your sin, and your evil- the more you are going to see the next part as as good news. Let me explain
Imagine there were 2 boys and they both wanted to buy something really badly but neither of them had the money to buy what they wanted, so they both had the same idea- they both decided to steal the money- the first boy just wanted a packet of chips though so he just stole a R20 out his grandpas wallet, however the second boy wanted the new PlayStation 5- so he was very clever, he got his grandpas black credit card and went to the shops and bought it without any permission. Well the grandfather found out what both these boys did and it was confirmed when He looked through his wallet and saw his R20 which he was going to use for a coffee was gone and so was his credit card- and suddenly two boys were looking very happy. But instead of punishing them He bought both boys another packet of chips and bought another controller so they could all play together- He forgave them and paid off the amount owed on the credit card. These boys did not deserve that- they had stolen from the grandpa- they actually deserved to loose what they had bought as well as maybe a punishment alongside that- some chores to work off the payment, maybe the one more than the other- what do you think? Allow for some answers... But do you know it is the same when God gives us His righteousness freely, no matter what our sin is, God sees all sin the same- if you have murdered or disobeyed your parents- we see sin as better or worse but God doesn't instead He allows forgiveness for all sin- In the above story which boy do you think was more grateful He didn't have to pay back the old man? The one who owe more?

1) Lets take a quick look at the word righteousness (Stick the word up in big letters on the wall as your visual)- As well as the word Justified , Grace and Faith

Righteousness: Being made right in God's eyes

Justified: JUST as if I never sinned

Grace: Been given what I don't deserve and more

Faith: Believing and acting on what you can't see

Once you have gone through these words and they are all stuck up read through the passage and for the older kids get them to underline these words when they hear them, for the younger kids make different actions for each word example: Righteousness is thumbs up, Justified shake your head, grace: action of giving and faith hands over eyes. (older kids might enjoy doing this too)
Read vs 22-26

God's job is not to forgive- He chooses to forgive us- God took the wrath of God against sinners against himself

There is also another video story highlighting justification of sins- this is really important as we continue in Chapter 4 next week to grasp Justification and being made right in Gods eyes.



Break into small groups
(make sure all children know where their
new classes are and who their friends
are)



Please don't forget to tick off your
registers as well as add any new
children to the form

Discussion questions

Last week we learned how God has given rules and His law- not to gain righteousness but rather to see how much we need His forgiveness- Have you realized how much you need God yet? Have you acknowledged you are a sinner?

Don't forget when leading your small group, stick to the 3 R's

RECAP- Open up your small group time asking the children what did they think about what they just heard- what stood out to them? Ask them something slightly more specific- Go over the 4 new words we just learnt 1)Righteousness: Being made right in God's eyes 2)Justified: JUST as if I never sinned 3)Grace: Been given what I don't deserve and more 4)Faith: Believing and acting on what you can't see

REINFORCE- Look more at rules in everyday life and how we fail- Is it nice to fail?

- How do we forget about God's justice or God's justification and how does forgetting this affect us and our outlook on everyday life? (perhaps it makes us ungrateful or we tend more to judge others more for their sin)
- How has Jesus made you right in Gods eyes? Why is this such a big thing? What would be the price we would have to pay if Jesus hadn't paid the price for us?

REFLECT-

Remember no one deserves the Grace God has given us through faith- no one has earned it so none of us can boast about being a Christian- with this in mind, if you met someone in an elevator who did not have the righteousness of God- how would you explain 'the righteousness of God' to them?

REMEMBER!



Activities and Games for Small Group Time
Today's Small Group Activity focuses on the 4 new words- you can choose which word you would like to reinforce in small group time.

Please note, these games & Activities are here to help drive home the main idea.




All PDF
printables
available on
Google Drive
Folder



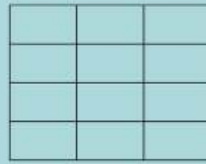
GAME

"Missing the Mark" to help learn Romans 3:23.

Sin puts us off track from where God wants us to be. Kids need to understand this and realize that all "miss the mark" and sin at times. That's what Romans 3:23 says. Here's the complete version: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Here is a fun Bible verse game you can play with your kids to help them memorize this important Scripture.

You will need to make the following grid on your floor with some masking tape. Make a 12-square grid, but then put a 13th square right in the middle.

Next, label each square, except for the middle one, with one word from Romans 3:23 along with a point value of 200, 300, or 400. The middle square gets a point value of 500. There are 12 words in Romans 3:23 including the reference. Do not place them in any kind of order. They should look scrambled on the grid. Finally, grab a beanbag or some other object that will throw and land nicely on the grid. You are now ready to play the game.



Before beginning the game, say the following: Have any of you ever shot an arrow? (Wait for responses. If no one has shot an arrow, ask if they've ever seen someone shoot an arrow.) Did you know that's kind of what sin is like? It's like missing the mark or falling short of where you should be - where God wants you to be. Romans 3:23 says this: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

This verse means that we are all sinners and we all miss the mark at times and do wrong things that displease God.

Let's play a game called "Missing the Mark" to help us memorize this important Bible verse.

Divide your class into 2 teams for this activity.

Give a child from the first team the chance to throw the beanbag. He should try for the middle square. If he succeeds, he must look away from the grid and recite Romans 3:23 by heart. If he does so correctly, he earns 500 points for his team. If he lands on a square with a word on it, he can earn the points on that square by saying the verse while looking at the grid. However, before he says it, you the teacher, must erase the word in the box. Play continues to the next team. Eventually, it will get harder to recite the verse as the words are erased. On any turn, if the beanbag lands on a square whose word has already been erased, then the teacher erases a different word on the grid, but the child only earns the points of the original square. The team with the most points wins.



ACTIVITY

'Christ covering me' craft activity

Craft on Righteousness- only Jesus can make you right in God's eyes- our works are filthy rags in God's eyes



The PDF printables are available on the 'craft & activities' Drive

GAME

Faith

The Walk of Faith

Players are put into groups of three with the middle person blindfolded. The three players must stay in a line, in front and in back of the blindfolded person. The people in front and in back must guide the blind person through an obstacle course

When the three players get back to where they started, the blindfolded player must follow the same path alone, trying to remember all of their turns and footsteps, while still blindfolded.

If the blindfolded player is successful and makes it to the end of the obstacle course, the

team wins.

If not, the players come back to the start, and another player is selected to be blindfolded with a player in the front and back; and they once again go through the obstacle course



GAME



Play pass the parcel

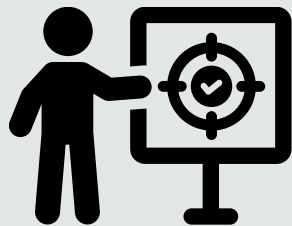
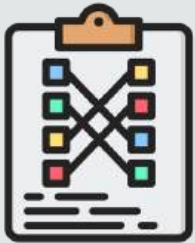
Emphasize that God's grace is a gift freely given to all who choose to 'open' and accept His forgiveness.



Word Match- Up

Use the 4 new words along with the 4 new meanings they have learnt- you can also incorporate the actions into this activity- see which team can match up the words with the meanings first as well as say them out loud along with the actions.

1) Righteousness 2) Justified 3) Grace 4) Faith



OBJECT LESSON ON JUSTIFICATION

Sandpaper Object Lesson: For this demonstration, you will need a block of wood, a pencil and some sandpaper. Cover a table with a black sheet so kids can see the sand easier.

Show the block of wood and explain that the wood is like our souls. Tell kids that the Bible says everyone was born with sin so write the word "sin" a few times on the wood right at the beginning. Then talk about the sins we knowingly add. Share common sins from your own past like lying or disobeying parents. For every sin, write the word "sin" on the wood. Ask kids to name other sins like stealing. Write the word "sin" all over the wood until it looks covered. Pass the wood around and let kids see how covered it is. Try to erase the pencil with the eraser. Kids will see that it is impossible to erase all the words completely. Pick up the sandpaper and explain to kids that the sandpaper is like Jesus' blood. He cleanses it away. Rub the pencil marks with the sandpaper. Ask kids if they can see the sand on the cloth. Say, that's sin being removed by Jesus. Allow kids to take turns rubbing away the pencil marks until the wood is clean and mark-free.

Activities/Crafts

All PDF/ Printable are found under small group folder
on the drive

5

PROW

group

For this week during your prayer time, Thank God his free gift of righteousness through faith- ask God to continue to help us trust and have faith in His promise to us.

THIS WEEK

Keep track of prayer requests your small group may bring up as well as who they plan on sharing the Gospel with- start praying for these people that God would already be working in their hearts