



God's Love Letter to You

Romans 1:8-17 • October 25th, 2026

BIG IDEA

The gospel is God's love letter to you, and it is good news worth believing, living, and sharing.

OUTLINE

The gospel gives me...

1. **No shame** in the pushback it provokes (16a).
2. **Confidence** in the power it carries (16b).
3. **Rescue** through the pardon it brings (16c).
4. **Access** to the people it reaches (16d).
5. **Righteousness** from the provision it supplies (17).

CALL TO RESPOND

1. Accept it.
2. Live it.
3. Share it.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Paul opens with thanksgiving, prayer, and longing to see the Romans (vv. 8-12). How does his affection for them shape the way you read the rest of the letter? Who in your life needs to hear that kind of encouragement from you this week?
2. Paul says he is "not ashamed" of the gospel (v. 16). Where do you feel the most pressure to downplay or soften the message of Christ: work, family, friendships, or social media? Why?
3. Salvation in Romans includes rescue from sin's penalty, its power, and one day its presence (cf. Rom. 6:22). Which of these three do you tend to forget? How would remembering it change your week?
4. Paul says the gospel is "to everyone who believes," Jew and Gentile alike (v. 16). Who in your life have you quietly written off as beyond reach? What would it look like to treat them as someone God can save?
5. Romans 1:17 says righteousness is something we receive, not something we produce. How is this different from every other religion and from the way we naturally try to earn approval?

DIRECT APPLICATION

1. Are you resting in the righteousness Christ credited to you, or are you striving to earn God's approval, forgiveness, or love? a. If you're resting, share how you've cultivated this posture of trust. b. If you're struggling, confess this as a failure to trust what God has said, and submit your mind and heart to His word.
 - a. As a group, commit to encouraging those who are doing well, and to coming alongside those who are struggling with regular reminders of the gospel.



2. Paul says the gospel is a cure and a fire escape, and you are holding it. Who is one person in your life you could share the good news with this week? Pray for them together by name.
3. Good news becomes great news when we **accept it, live it, and share it**. Which of these three do you most need to grow in right now? What is one concrete step you will take this week?