

## Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Romans 1:1-7 & 1:13-32. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? Why?
2. If you received a letter from Paul saying he wanted to visit your family & Living Water, how would you react? Why?
3. What terms does Paul use to describe his relationship to Jesus Christ (1:1)? How would you define those terms? How would you describe your relationship to Jesus? Explain why you say that.
4. Paul says the gospel was “promised” beforehand by God’s prophets in the Holy Scriptures. Why is this important? Can you point to a few Old Testament Scriptures that point ahead to Jesus?
5. How does Paul define Jesus’ identity? How is each part of that important? How does the identity & saving work of Christ then define Paul & his ministry, and by extension you & your ministry?
6. How does Paul define the identity of the Roman Christians? How do those same definitions apply to you? Are those things you could explain to a not-yet-Christian?
7. In vss 13-17, Paul describes a desire & obligation to preach the gospel in Rome. Why do you think he feels that way? Why does Paul say he is “not ashamed” of the good news of Jesus? What’s the point of the gospel according to these verses? How is the work of the gospel accomplished in us?
8. Why does Paul begin his explanation of the gospel (vs 18) with God’s wrath against sin rather than his love for us in Jesus?
9. Why are men without excuse if they do not know God (vs20)? What about God should be obvious to everyone? Why? Is it obvious to you? What attributes of God can be known in this way?
10. What common sin is mentioned in vss 18, 25, & 28? How do you see that manifest in today’s world? What was God’s response to human rebellion? (vss 24, 26, & 28) Why do you think God gave us what we wanted? How does contemporary society reflect the rebellious broken state of sin rather than the intended wholehearted devotion to God that brings him glory?
11. What do you think Paul is hoping his readers hear in this first part of the letter?
12. What do you hear this text calling you to do?

# Living Water Fellowship

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Pentecost – Trinity Sunday – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION    GREAT ARE YOU LORD (ALL SONS & DAUGHTERS)

**WELCOME & PRAYER OF THE DAY:** *(together)*

**All: Holy Spirit of life, enflame me with passion for the good news.**

**Let my voice ring with the hope & promise of Christ**

**Holy Spirit of Love, immerse me in compassion & kindness.**

**May my words bring comfort to those in need of consolation & relief.**

**Holy Spirit of grace, enlighten my mind & heart.**

**Fill my speech with expressions of peace & understanding.**

**Fill us today with the mind, heart & life of Jesus Christ. Amen**

## GROW IN HIS GRACE

**SONG:**                                    *Thy Word (AT 246)*

**BIBLE READING:**                    Romans 1:1-7

<sup>1</sup>This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle & sent out to preach his Good News. <sup>2</sup>God promised this Good News long ago through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. <sup>3</sup>The Good News is about his Son. In his earthly life he was born into King David’s family line. <sup>4</sup>He was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit. He is Jesus Christ our Lord.

<sup>5</sup>Through Christ, God has given us the privilege & authority as apostles to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe & obey him, bringing glory to his name.

<sup>6</sup>And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>I am writing to all of you in Rome who are loved by God & are called to be his own holy people. May God our Father & the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace & peace.

## ***IT’S PENTECOST - VIDEO***

**BIBLE READING:**                    Romans 1:13-32

<sup>13</sup>“I want you to know, dear brothers & sisters that I planned many times to visit you, but I was prevented until now. I want to work among you & see spiritual fruit, just as I have seen among other Gentiles. <sup>14</sup>For I have a great sense of obligation to people in both the civilized world & the rest of the world, to the educated & uneducated alike. <sup>15</sup>So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach the Good News.

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first & also the Gentile. <sup>17</sup> This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”

<sup>18</sup> But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. <sup>19</sup> They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. <sup>20</sup> For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth & sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power & divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

<sup>21</sup> Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn’t worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark & confused. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. <sup>23</sup> And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people & birds & animals & reptiles.

<sup>24</sup> So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile & degrading things with each other’s bodies. <sup>25</sup> They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped & served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. <sup>26</sup> That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex & instead indulged in sex with each other. <sup>27</sup> And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, & as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved.

<sup>28</sup> Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking & let them do things that should never be done. <sup>29</sup> Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarrelling, deception, malicious behaviour, & gossip. <sup>30</sup> They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, & boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, & they disobey their parents. <sup>31</sup> They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, & have no mercy. <sup>32</sup> They know God’s justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

**THE MESSAGE:**      *OPERATION GOSPEL: GOSPEL EXPOSURE*

**THE CREED:**

**L:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**P:** I believe that God has made me and all that exists. He has given & still preserves my body & soul, mind & senses & all my abilities.

**God also gives me food & clothing, work & money, home & family & all I need from day to day.**

**He defends me against all danger & guards & protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, although I surely do not deserve it. All I can do is thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.**

**L:** I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord.

**P:** I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord. He is truly God & has always been the Son of the Father. He is also truly Human, born of the Virgin Mary.

**He has redeemed me a lost & condemned creature, won & purchased me from sin, death & the devil not with silver or gold, but with his holy & precious blood & his innocent suffering & death so that I may be his & live under him in his kingdom & serve him forever in righteousness, innocence & blessedness just as he is risen from the dead & lives & reigns eternally. This is most certainly true.**

**L:** I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins & the life everlasting. Amen

**P:** I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, made me holy & kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, & makes holy the whole Christian church on earth, & keeps it with Jesus Christ in one true faith.

**In this Christian church He daily & richly forgives all my sins & the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me & all the dead, & give eternal life to me & all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

**OFFERING SONG:**      *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus (Sovereign Grace)*

**PRAYERS:**

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God, you are a living gospel to the world!  
Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SONG:**      *Let’s Go Out (AT 298)*

*SHOW HIS LOVE*