



LENT PARTICIPATION: Romans reading plan & “Love Freely Given” video series

Lent is a season of preparation leading us to reflect on Jesus’ amazing acts of love for us. Our Lenten sermon series this year will highlight the first eight chapters of Romans and we believe your personal study will enhance our time together and appreciation of Christ Risen at Easter. We will continue our Romans study after Lent to finish out the whole book. We also invite you to watch a weekly video series from Dr. Terry Wardle called “Love Freely Given,” which highlights a different aspect of the Gospel of Christ. Join us for Sunday seminar workshops beginning March 6 through April 10 at 9 am in the lower chapel to discuss the videos together.

STUDY SUGGESTIONS

- 1) Pray before you begin and ask the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and revelation as you read.
- 2) Romans is a dense text. Reread passages more than once and compare several different versions like NRSV, NIV and The Message.
- 3) Look for the following as you read and make notes as you observe them in the text:
 - Repetition of words, statements, or themes
 - Comparison/Contrast
 - Simile: explicit comparison using the words “like” or “as”
 - Metaphor: an object, activity, or idea that is used as a symbol of something else
 - Personification: a thing, quality or idea represented as a person
- 4) Do you see connections between the passage you are reading and other texts in Romans or the Bible as a whole? How do they reinforce or enhance your understanding?
- 5) What questions or wonderings do you have as you engage with this passage?

We would encourage you to get a notebook or journal to write down your observations and reflections. Take heart, it can take time to settle into a new rhythm of reading and studying scripture. The more you read, the more you will begin to understand and make connections that you had not seen before. We are here to help. Please connect with us if you have questions or are feeling stuck at bludwig@5stones.org or shauna@5stones.org.

READING PLAN

WEEK 1

Video: The Scandalous Gospel of Grace

- March 2- 1:1-7 (Ash Wednesday)
- 3- 1:8-17
- 4- 1:18-25
- 5- 1:26-32
- 6- REST

WEEK 2

Video: Awakening to the Holy Spirit

- 7- 2:1-11
- 8- 2:12-16
- 9- 2:17-24
- 10- 2:25-29
- 11- 3:1-8
- 12- 3:9-20
- 13- REST (Daylight Savings)

WEEK 3

Video: You are God's Child

- 14- 3:21-26
- 15- 3:27-31
- 16- 4:1-5
- 17- 4:6-12
- 18- 4:13-18
- 19- 4:19-25
- 20- REST

WEEK 4

Video: The Wonder Inside of You

- 21- 5:1-5
- 22- 5:6-11
- 23- 5:12-14
- 24- 5:15-17

- 25- 5:18-21
- 26- Read chapter 5 as a whole
- 27- REST

WEEK 5

Video: Welcomed to the Table of the Lord

- 28- 6:1-4
- 29- 6:5-11
- 30- 6:12-14
- 31- 6:15-19
- April 1- 6:20-23
- 2- Read chapter 6 as a whole
- 3- REST

WEEK 6

Video: Remain in the Light

- 4- 7:1-3
- 5- 7:4-6
- 6- 7:7-11
- 7- 7:12-20
- 8- 7:21-25
- 9- Read chapter 7 as a whole
- 10- REST (Palm Sunday)

WEEK 7

- 11- 8:1-11
- 12- 8:12-17
- 13- 8:18-25
- 14- 8:26-30
- 15- 8:31-39
- 16- Read chapter 8 as a whole
- 17- EASTER SUNDAY

Join us on Zoom to process and ask questions on Thursdays 12-12:30 starting March 10 – April 14. Look for the link in the Monday email.