

ONE

SIXTEEN

Community Group Discussion Guide

March 2, 2014

The Gospel in Romans
Week 2 - God's Wrath Explained
Romans 1:18-32

Read Romans 1:18-32 before answering the following questions.

Introduction

The book of Romans is brilliant apologetic for the Christian faith. Know this book well and it will equip you to share your faith in Christ. The title for this series is taken from Paul's personal declaration of confidence in the gospel.

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.

Romans 1:16

Questions for Study

1. There is no question the words that Paul wrote in this passage are not easy to swallow. Can you think of a time in your life when a friend or family member spoke some "hard truth" into your life? How did it impact you?
2. What is the picture of humanity that is presented in these verses? What does it mean to "suppress" the truth?
3. When we read Romans 1:18-3:20 we see that the text takes a hard turn. Though these verses bring a dark reality to light, why are they CRUCIAL to the message of the Gospel? Without a right understanding of our sin and God's holiness, what would a non-believer be led to think about the significance of Jesus Christ's death?
4. How have the "things of God" been made know to man? See verse 20. Give your own examples of this.
5. What does it mean that "God gave them over"...we see this repeated three times in this text.
6. Romans 1:17 talks about a righteousness that is "received" from God. After reading Romans 1:18-32 why do we need this "received righteousness"?
7. In today's reading we've seen a lot of reasons why we need Christ. Elaborate on why Paul chose to say this of the gospel: "it is the POWER of God..." (Romans 1:16).
8. Reread vs. 21, it says that: "they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him". What can you give thanks to God for this week?
9. Where should a text like this lead a follower of Christ? How does it impact our worship?