

Romans 1 “A Gospel Community”
Romans 1:1-7
August 2, 2026

Romans 1:1-7

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures— 3 concerning his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was a descendant of David according to the flesh 4 and was appointed to be the powerful Son of God according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead. 5 Through him we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the Gentiles, 6 including you who are also called by Jesus Christ. 7 To all who are in Rome, loved by God, called as saints. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul writes towards an important alignment of the church's life in purpose and mission.

Romans 1:1

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—

Bought, owned and ruled.

Set apart from the world for the world.

Romans 1:2-4

2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures— 3 concerning his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was a descendant of David according to the flesh 4 and was appointed to be the powerful Son of God according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead.

A gospel promised beforehand.

Paul is prioritizing the importance of seeing that God is first.

Romans 1:5-6

5 Through him we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the Gentiles, 6 including you who are also called by Jesus Christ.

God's gospel and revelation isn't a burden but creates freedom.

We don't live for the sake of his name at our detriment.

Romans 1:7

7 To all who are in Rome, loved by God, called as saints.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:9-10

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A community created by the gospel and for the gospel.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- 1.) What did God say to you through His Scriptures during our Sunday gathering?
- 2.) Paul is writing to the church in Rome that has experienced a lot of change. Share about a time when you left somewhere to return years later and see things different than what you remembered?
- 3.) If you were making an introduction to a new group of people what would you want them to know about you? What stands out to you about Paul's introduction? What seems important to Paul?
- 4.) Paul uses terms like "servant", "set apart", "obedience of faith" and "for the sake of his name" to describe an all-in committed faith. What kind of response do you think Paul is hopeful for in these opening verses? Do you sense a gospel invitation to believe more and live differently?
- 5.) As Paul connects us to the gospel, we also become more connected to one another. How have you seen the gospel create community? How could your currently community align more with gospel purpose and mission?