

## Romans - The Gospel is the Thing

In any group that has believed in Jesus for a while, certain attitudes begin to creep in. They manifest themselves through things like forgetfulness and pride. The answer to these things is to re-embrace the glorious truth of the gospel.

Scripture(s): Romans 1:14-17 (and passages from Romans)

Remember this - The good news of Jesus is big enough and profound enough to guide ALL of our life's \_\_\_\_\_.

I. The first overarching problem that the powerful gospel of Jesus will solve in our lives is our need for forgiveness from \_\_\_\_\_. Even our personal moral standards are too \_\_\_\_\_ to hold back our sin nature - we break those too.

Everyone, regardless of their background or morality, needs the forgiveness and restoration that Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_. Romans 1:18-21; Romans 2:1; Romans 2:12-16 <sup>12</sup> For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law; <sup>13</sup> for it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. <sup>14</sup> For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, <sup>15</sup> in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, <sup>16</sup> on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

Romans 10:8-11 <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

II. The second overarching problem that the powerful gospel of Jesus will solve in our lives is the \_\_\_\_\_ that can sneak into long-time believers' hearts. Spiritual pride causes us to forget that fallenness is normal and forgiveness cannot be \_\_\_\_\_. It is in the \_\_\_\_\_ that never forgets how forgiveness has come to us that love for others really blooms. Romans 2:1-8; Romans 11:30-32; Romans 9:1-5 <sup>1</sup> I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh,

III. The third overarching problem that the powerful gospel of Jesus will solve in our lives is the constant pull of \_\_\_\_\_. Even the best of us are tempted to want life to be about us \_\_\_\_\_ rather than about all of us. The good news of Jesus calls us to make love like Jesus toward others to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of our life. Romans 12:3; Romans 12:9-13; Romans 13:8-10 <sup>8</sup> Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.; Romans 14:1-4

What should I do?

1. Realize that it is your \_\_\_\_\_ for which Jesus died.
2. Stop looking down on fellow broken people as if your forgiveness was \_\_\_\_\_ by your good deeds.
3. Make Jesus-style love the guiding \_\_\_\_\_ of your life with others.

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