

# Finding the Roman Road

Lent & Holy Week 2014



**Spiritual growth through Paul's letter to the Romans**  
**Bethany Lutheran Church**

Why are we here? When we are in church on Ash Wednesday, we experience the ancient custom of having the ashes placed on the forehead while hearing “from dust you came, to the dust you shall return.” This is what begins the season we call “Lent” which is about stripping down our lives, taking things away, giving things up all to (re)discover the things that really matter in life. Well, one thing, really... Jesus!

Lent is about going back before we go forward. Why are we here? So we can grow together, by God's grace. And any kind of growth has to come from God, the maker of the sun, rain and every good thing in our lives. So, this Lent we return to the Lord and His Word, and God gives us the power to start again.

This year, let's do some traveling. The Roman Road to salvation is the title given to a handful of verses in St. Paul's Letter to the Romans that can easily explain our relationship to God. Yet the road is longer than just a few verses, and if we travel the whole road together: learning, praying, and singing together with the book of Romans as our guide, then perhaps we may rediscover why we are here.

You are invited to use this devotional guide as your roadmap down the Roman Road. Each Sunday, there will be a sermon and a Bible Study drawn from the section we are reading that week. For each day, there is a portion of Romans to read and then a blank space for you to write down your thoughts.

If time allows, read the section more than once. You may wish to write down a verse or two that really stands out as you read. Don't be surprised if something happens during the day that really connects with your reading. That is just the way God works! Take the time to write that down in this journal, too.

Are you ready? Good. Let's hit the road!

Begin at the House of Righteousness

Sermon: "The Good Life" Romans 1:16-17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Adult Bible Class

Rev. Joseph Davis

"The Law: Natural, Revealed, Functional"

Daily Readings

- 1) PRAY for understanding;
- 2) MEDITATE (pick out a verse to "chew" on for a while)
- 3) RELATE (is there something that connects to the people/events you are praying about?);
- 4) PRAY (is there something you don't understand or do not agree with or struggling with?)
- 5) WRITE down any observations

<b>Monday</b>	1:1-15	Making Plans
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:16-17	Righteousness Apart from The Law (yes, it is nice and short, but it is a lot think about!)
<b>Wednesday</b>	1:18-32	Natural Law
<b>Thursday</b>	2:1-11	Do Not Judge Others
<b>Friday</b>	2:12-16	Being Judged by God
<b>Saturday</b>	2:17-29	Keeping The Law (is impossible)

Turn right onto Faith Finding

Sermon: "The Only Way"      Romans 3:21

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

Adult Bible Class

Steve Stephens  
Faith and Redemption

Daily Readings

- 1) PRAY for understanding;
- 2) MEDITATE (pick out a verse to "chew" on for a while)
- 3) RELATE (is there something that connects to the people/events you are praying about?);
- 4) PRAY (is there something you don't understand or do not agree with or struggling with?)
- 5) WRITE down any observations

**Monday**            3:1-8            God's faithfulness

**Tuesday**           3:9-20           All have sinned...

**Wednesday**      3:21-31          All are saved (by faith)

**Thursday**          4:1-8            Abraham & David's Faith

**Friday**             4:9-12           Faith & Obedience

**Saturday**          4:13-25          Faith in God's Promises

Proceed straight to Peace Place

Sermon:

Romans 5:9

“Peace through The Blood”

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Adult Bible Class

Pastor Jagow  
All about Baptism

Daily Readings

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- 3) RELATE (is there something that connects to the people/events you are praying about?);
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**Monday**            5:1-5            True Peace

**Tuesday**            5:6-11            True Forgiveness

**Wednesday**            5:12-17            One Man

**Thursday**            5:18-21            Grace Alone

**Friday**            6:1-4            Baptism Connection

**Saturday**            6:5-14            Under Grace

Turn left at New Life Lane

Sermon

Romans 6:17-18  
“Slaves to Righteousness”

But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Adult Bible Class

Pastor Jagow  
Sanctified by The Holy Spirit

Daily Readings

- 1) PRAY for understanding;
- 2) MEDITATE (pick out a verse to "chew" on for a while)
- 3) RELATE (is there something that connects to the people/events you are praying about?);
- 4) PRAY (is there something you don't understand or do not agree with or struggling with?)
- 5) WRITE down any observations

**Monday**          6:15-23          Captive Free

**Tuesday**        7:1-6            Free from The Law

**Wednesday**    7:7-21          The Enemy Within

**Thursday**       8:1-11          The Spirit Within

**Friday**          8:12-30        God's Family

**Saturday**       8:31-39        Jesus Forever

Take the ramp to Election Highway

Sermon

Romans 9:16

“God’s Mercy Does Not Fail”

So then it depends not on human will or exertion but on God, who has mercy.

Adult Bible Class

Jerry Lucas

Bridging the Old and New Testaments

Daily Readings

- 1) PRAY for understanding;
- 2) MEDITATE (pick out a verse to "chew" on for a while)
- 3) RELATE (is there something that connects to the people/events you are praying about?);
- 4) PRAY (is there something you don't understand or do not agree with or struggling with?)
- 5) WRITE down any observations

**Monday**      9:1-18      God's Word (does not fail)

**Tuesday**      9:19-29      Potter and Clay

**Wednesday**      9:30-10:4      Pursue by Faith

**Thursday**      10:5 – 21      Confess and Believe

**Friday**      11:1 – 24      Branches Grafted into The  
Tree

**Saturday**      11:25 – 36      Doxology

WEEK SIX, April 13 Palm Sunday Romans 12-13  
Exit onto New Creation Causeway

Sermon: Romans 12:12  
“Rejoice. Wait. Pray!”

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Adult Bible Study

Pastor Jagow  
Changing the World

Daily Readings

- 1) PRAY for understanding;
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- 3) RELATE (is there something that connects to the people/events you are praying about?);
- 4) PRAY (is there something you don't understand or do not agree with or struggling with?)
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**Holy Monday**            12:1-8            Living Sacrifice

**Holy Tuesday**            12:9-21            Good Living

**Holy Wednesday**            13:1-14            Live in The Light

**Maundy Thursday**

**Read Romans 14**  
**Proceed straight to Christian Community**

Sermon            Romans 14:8

“Living and Dying”

For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

**Good Friday**

**Read Romans 15**

Sermon:

Romans 15:13  
“Abound in Hope”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**Holy Saturday**

16:1-27

E a s t e r S u n d a y

Sermon

Romans 16:20

“(This Is Not) The End of The Road”

<sup>20</sup> The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

FINAL WEEK, April 27

Adult Bible Class Pastor Jagow (& company)

Closing Thoughts on Romans

