



ROMANS

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“Mirrors, Not Binoculars”

August 21, 2022 // Tyler Scott, Lead Pastor

Romans is a book of the Bible that recalibrates us, helping us to follow Jesus in every area of our lives. Our modern western culture calls us to bow down to ideologies that really function like idols. Yet this is not new! It has always been the strategy of our spiritual enemy. And all of us struggle with sin that separates us from God. Yet God responds with kindness that hopefully leads us to repentance.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Share a time in your life where you were tempted to use BINOCULARS (to look at others from afar), but God convicted you to use a MIRROR (to look at yourself up close).
2. **Read Romans 1:18-20.** In what ways has God revealed the truth about Himself to all people? How does this leave people “without excuse?”
3. **Read Romans 1:21-23.** What response does God have to people who suppress the truth that they know about Him? Describe a time in your life when you suppressed the truth about God.
4. **Read Romans 1:24-25.** In what ways do people “exchange the truth of God for a lie” in our current culture, and worship created things rather than the Creator? What idols do you see people worshiping in our culture today? What idol are you tempted to worship? (*NOTE: An idol can often be a GOOD thing that is made to be an ULTIMATE/GOD thing.)
5. **Read Romans 1:26-32.** What stands out to you most in this passage? Why do you think Paul uses such a long and diverse list of sins here? If/when we don’t like what God’s Word says about something, why is it important to ask God to change our hearts to be more like His?
6. **Read Romans 2:1-3.** How does Paul make sure no one feels left out in these verses? According to this, what happens when we judge other people? Why is using a MIRROR (not BINOCULARS) so important?
7. **Read Romans 2:4.** What do you think verse 4 means? Have you experienced kindness from God (or another person) that has caused you to want to turn from your sin (aka repentance)?
8. Even though we deserve the wrath of God for our sin, God’s response is patience, tolerance, and kindness toward us. How does this make you feel? Where specifically have you seen this in your life? Where do you hope to see it?

PRAYER: Spend some time sharing prayer requests, and pray for one another. Pray specifically that you will let the (sometimes difficult) teachings of Romans recalibrate your life to True North—following Jesus in every area of your life.