

# GRACE: THE TRUTH THAT TRANSFORMS

## HOW TO LIVE FOR CHRIST IN A CULTURE THAT DOESN'T (Romans 1:8-17) Talk-it-Over Notes | February 14-15, 2026

### REVIEW IT

The New Testament Epistle to the Romans was sent to real people, real churches, trying to figure out what to believe and how to live for Christ in a very difficult environment. To get God's light, love and life, you have to decide that it doesn't matter what everyone else thinks, it matters what God thinks.

How to live for Christ in a culture that doesn't:

1. Start by looking for the good that God is doing
2. Connect with people who encourage your faith
3. Stay Biblically solid but personally flexible
4. Don't be ashamed of what saves you

As we're still getting our footing in Romans, this Bible Project video can help give more context:

"Book of Romans Summary: A Complete Animated Overview (Part 1)"

Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ej\\_6dVdJSIU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ej_6dVdJSIU)

Spend some time in the word: **Read Romans 1:8-17**

### TALK ABOUT IT

1. *"Let me say first that I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith in him is being talked about all over the world."* (Romans 1:8 )
  - What good things is God doing in your life right now?
  - Does the stuff you listen to help you focus on what is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, etc...
  - According to this verse, what should a church be known for?
2. *"When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours."* (Romans 1:12) — Who, if anyone, do you have in your life that encourages you in your faith?
3. *"I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to visit you, but I was prevented until now."* (Romans 1:13) — What specific Bible passages or principles have helped you stay grounded as the world has changed around you?
4. *"For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes."* (Romans 1:16) — If the gospel is so powerful and good, why do you think some Christians are ashamed of it?
5. What else stood out to you about this Bible reading or sermon.

### ACT ON IT

This week, memorize Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just,  
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable,  
if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.  
Philippians 4:8 ESV

Share with one another some ways effective methods you have found to memorize a Bible verse.

### PRAY ABOUT IT

Take time to ask how you can pray for and support one another in prayer. Then, close in prayer.