

GRACE: THE TRUTH THAT TRANSFORMS

WHY CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE? (Romans 1:1) Talk-it-Over Notes | January 31 - February 1, 2026

REVIEW IT

This week we start a study on the New Testament Epistle of Romans. The New Testament Epistles are written to Christians who gather together to worship Jesus and carry out his mission.

Why Can I Trust The Bible?

1. It is written by eyewitnesses
2. It is written mostly by its enemy
3. Paul wrote the truth about God and suffered greatly

How Can the Bible Help Me?

1. It teaches me the real purpose of Jesus
2. It helps me battle my natural desires with supernatural power
3. It teaches me how to live a transformed life

What About the Stuff I Don't Like?

"Only if your God can say things that outrage you and make you struggle (as in a real friendship or marriage!) will you know that you have gotten hold of a real God and not a figment of your imagination. So an authoritative Bible is not the enemy of a personal relationship with God. It is the precondition for it." — Tim Keller, *The Reason For God*

*This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News.
Romans 1:1 NLT*

Spend some time in the word **Read Saul's Conversion in Act 9:1-19**

TALK ABOUT IT

(Tip: It is not necessary to go around the circle before you move on to the next question. Give people the freedom to speak, but don't insist on it. Your group will enjoy better discussion if people don't feel pressured to answer each and every question.)

- Why do you think the book of Romans is described by many as the greatest letter ever written? How does this perspective impact your interest in studying it?
- In what ways do you see the Bible as a trustworthy source? What doubts or questions do you have about its reliability?
- How does Paul's transformation from persecutor to apostle influence your understanding of grace and redemption?
- How do you respond when God's Word challenges your personal or cultural values?
- What stood out to you in this sermon or Bible reading?

ACT ON IT

If you're in a small group, make sure you go over the small group guidelines, know one another's names and have a plan for this semester regarding meeting times, snacks, etc...

PRAY ABOUT IT

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