

FirstRedeemer CHURCH

Logos Class

Book of Romans
Ch 16 and wrap-up

Class for Nov 22, 2026

Rooms 123/124 Adult Ed Building

Start Recorder

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Nov 1, 2026* — *Romans Ch 13*
- ✓ *Nov 8, 2026* — *Romans Ch 14*
- ✓ *Nov 15, 2026* — *Romans Ch 15*
- ✓ *Nov 22, 2026* — *Romans Ch 16 & wrap*
- *Nov 29, 2026.* — *New Study*
- *Dec 6, 2026* — *New Study*
- *Dec 13, 2026* — *Christmas Lesson 1*
- *Dec 20, 2026* — *Christmas Lesson 2*
- *Dec 27, 2026* — *Year End Discussion*

Quick Update ...*ICYMI*

Middle East

- *Israel continues its efforts against Hezbollah, and Hamas, and internal terrorism*
- *Iran still menacing neighbors with rockets, cyber attacks*
- *Houthis, with Iranian backing, attacking Saudi Arabia.*
- *Elections in Israel not conclusive . Most likely scenario is another election...a pivot point*

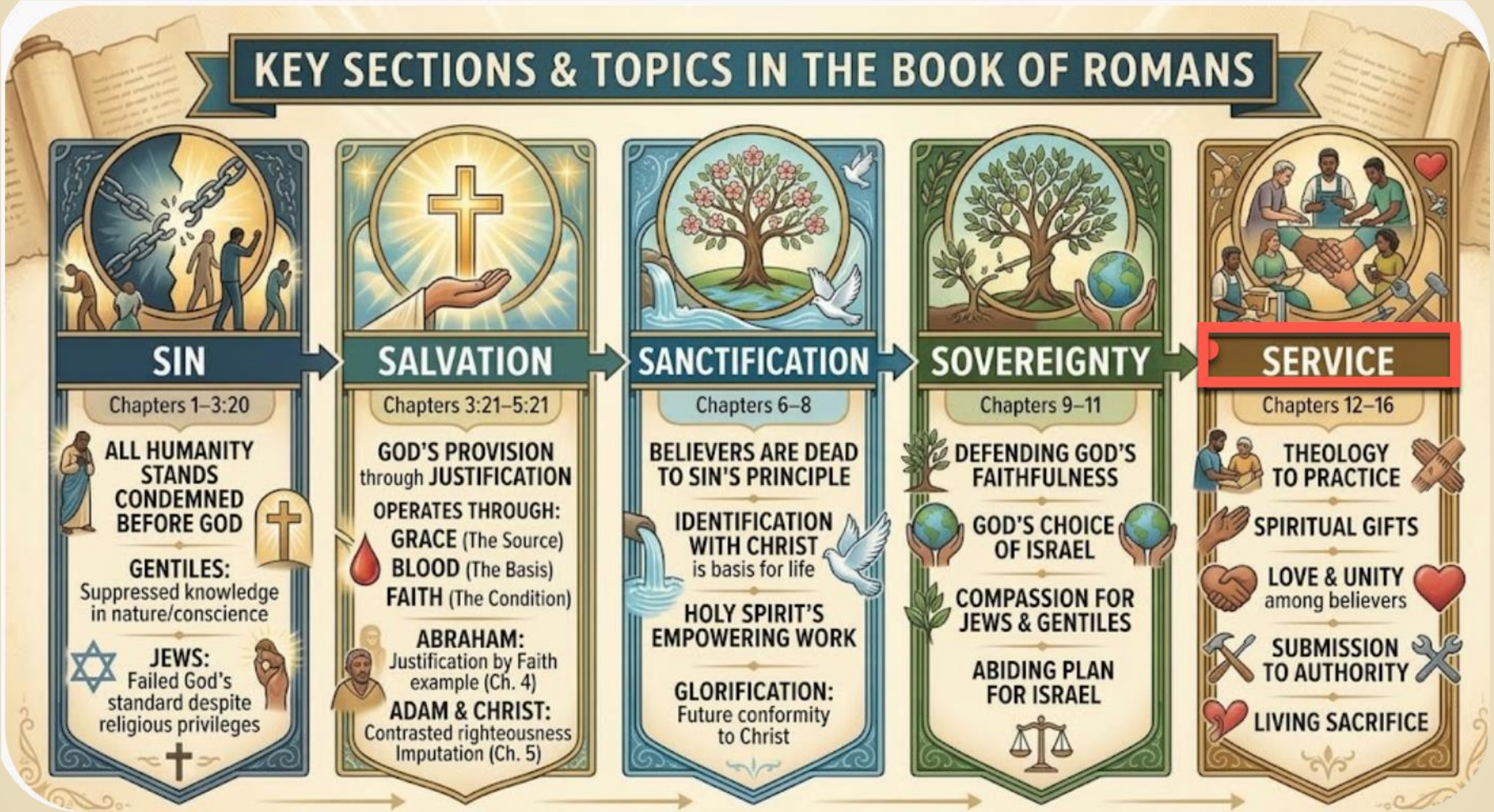
US/Worldwide

- *Democrats staking out key objectives for next 2 years...*
- *Most likely a flurry of activity while Trump still has both houses. Off to a slow start...*
- *The Russia-Ukraine war still ongoing, but Ukraine is making some decisive attacks*
- *European countries are on fire...France, Spain, UK,. Rioters are everywhere. Massive destruction by immigrants against institutions sowing chaos*

Chaos everywhere, Antisemitism rampaging, Anti Christian activities, Anti Western too

So much is happening in the world it is hard to keep up with it

Today we finish this wonderful letter



Romans 15 - The Main points to a Divided Church

Paul encourages the Roman Christians to get along. Those who are "strong" should be patient with those who are "weak," rather than putting their own preferences first. His prayer is that they will live in harmony, with Jesus at the center. The goal is to glorify God, and God is the one who makes this unity possible.

Jesus, the Example for us

Paul points to Jesus as our example and explains how Scripture encourages us. Instead of focusing on ourselves, we should be patient with others' weaknesses and help them grow. Show some "gospel-humility": "not thinking more or less of myself, ***it is thinking of myself less."***

Be welcoming to one another

Paul then asks believers to welcome one another. Jesus served both Jews and Gentiles, and they should follow his example. Paul uses Scripture to show that Gentiles, too, are included in praising God. He closes this section with a blessing, reminding believers that God equips them through the Holy Spirit.

Paul's ministry and plans

Finally, Paul explains why he is writing to the Roman churches, describes his missionary work among the Gentiles, and shares his travel plans and hopes that they will join with him.

What is the Main Takeaway?

Christian community grows stronger when we care about one another's spiritual well-being and let Jesus' selfless example guide us.

This is the final thought that Paul has for the Romans in this letter, and the final chapter (16) is the personal greetings from Paul to individuals in the church, and the inserted greeting of Tertius, the scribe who wrote this letter for Paul.

Also, some final comments from the Apostle and a Doxology / Blessing. Today we will complete this study

Romans Ch 16

- This final chapter wraps up Paul's letter with warm greetings, a quick warning, and a big shout of praise. It's kind of striking that a book so full of deep doctrine ends with so many personal hellos. Good doctrine should lead us to real, loving friendships.
- Paul starts by recommending Phoebe, a deaconess and helper who most likely carried the letter to Rome. He then greets 26 names, which shows how diverse the church there was: men and women, Jews and Gentiles, rich and poor. Note: nearly 40 percent of the people he greets are women.
- Then Paul gives a heads-up about false teachers who "cause divisions" and put "obstacles" in believers' paths. His advice? Be wise about what's good and stay innocent when it comes to evil.
- He closes with a doxology, praising God. The takeaway is simple: **let our bottom line be the same as Paul's sign-off,** Sola Deo Gloria, "to God alone be the glory."

Romans 16:1-2

16 *I commend to you* ***our sister*** *Phoebe, a* ***servant***[a] *of the church at Cenchreae,* ***2*** *that you may welcome her in the Lord* ***in a way worthy of the saints*** *and help her in whatever she may need from you,* ***for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well.***

You might ask why did Paul start his final chapter with praise for a woman named Phoebe ? Let's take a slight detour to better understand who she was

Phoebe – means Pure, Radiant, or Bright

Paul makes special effort to commend her to the Roman Church. She was not known to them, so Paul introduces her and why she is important.

◀ Romans 16:1 ▶

Romans 16 - Click for Chapter

	4921 [e]	1161 [e]	4771 [e]	5402 [e]		3588 [e]	79 [e]	1473 [e]		1510 [e]	2532 [e]	1249 [e]	3588 [e]	1577 [e]
	Synistēmi	de	hymin	Phoibēn	,	tēn	adelphēn	hēmōn	,	ousan	kai	diakonon	tēs	ekklēsias
1	Συνίστημι	δὲ	ὑμῖν	Φοίβην	,	τὴν	ἀδελφὴν	ἡμῶν	,	οὖσαν	‹καὶ›	διάκονον	τῆς	ἐκκλησίας
	I commend	moreover	to you	Phoebe		the	sister	of us		being	also	servant	of the	church
	V-PIA-1S	Conj	PPro-D2P	N-AFS		Art-AFS	N-AFS	PPro-G1P		V-PPA-AFS	Conj	N-AFS	Art-GFS	N-GFS

3588 [e]	1722 [e]	2747 [e]
tēs	en	Kenchreais
τῆς	ἐν	Κενχρεαῖς ,
-	in	Cenchrea
Art-GFS	Prep	N-DFP

- *Sister in Christ*
- *In addition, a <u>diakonon</u> in the Cenchrean Church*
- *Patron of Many including Paul*
- *Carrier of the Letter to Romans*
- *Welcome her worthy of the saints, and*
- *provide her anything she needs*

Many scholars divided on whether she was a servant or leader...text speaks for itself
In that she was apparently wealthy, generous, accustomed to travel, and responsible

Romans 16:3-9 Others on which Paul is focused

3 Greet **Prisca** and **Aquila**, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

4 who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well.

5 Greet *also the church in their house*. Greet my beloved **Epaenetus**, who was the first convert to Christ in Asia.

6 Greet **Mary**, who has worked hard for you.

7 Greet **Andronicus** and **Junia**, *my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners*. They are well known to the apostles, and they were in Christ before me.

8 Greet **Ampliatus,** my beloved in the Lord.

9 Greet **Urbanus**, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved **Stachys**.

Romans 16:10-16

10 Greet **Apelles,** who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of **Aristobulus.**

11 Greet my kinsman **Herodion**. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of **Narcissus.**

12 Greet those workers in the Lord, **Tryphaena** and **Tryphosa**. Greet the beloved **Persis,** who has worked hard in the Lord.

13 Greet **Rufus**, *chosen in the Lord*; also, his mother, who has been a mother to me as well.

14 Greet **Asyncritus**, **Phlegon**, **Hermes**, **Patrobas**, **Hermas**, and the brothers who are with them.

15 Greet **Philologus**, **Julia**, **Nereus** and his sister, and **Olympas,** and all the saints who are with them.

16 *Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.*

A Couple of Interesting thoughts...

- **Tryphaena** and **Tryphosa** were probably sisters, likely twins, and Paul calls them women "who labor in the Lord." Beyond that, we don't know much about them. Both names show up in inscriptions tied to the imperial household, so they may have had some link to Rome's elite circles, though we can't say exactly how.
- Interesting note: their names are a bit ironic. Both come from a verb meaning "to live luxuriously," (or spoiled rotten) and you could translate them as "Dainty" and "Delicate." Yet Paul praises them for their hard work in the Lord. Names that suggest comfort and leisure, and lives spent in dedicated service. *Quite a contrast. The names are not actual names but made-up names from the root. Probably diminutive ladies who were little powerhouses*
- So, what did they actually do? Most likely they served as "marketplace" evangelists like Priscilla, or diakinon though that's just speculation. In any case, their place in Paul's greetings shows how much he valued the women who were leading and serving in the early church, even if the details of their work are lost to us.

Romans 16:16. Holy Kiss

16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

- *The "holy kiss" wasn't a one-off command. Paul uses it in several letters, and Peter calls it "the kiss of love," so it was a normal way for early Christians to greet each other.*
- *In a world of class distinctions, it was a sign of peace and acceptance, and in Rome it cut across class, race, gender, and status. It was a real, physical picture of the unity Paul had spent fifteen chapters describing.*
- *In our culture, a holy hug has generally replaced this sign of affection.*
- ***It also signals the letter is wrapping up**. Paul's message wasn't just ideas to think about. It was meant to be lived out together as a community.*
- *Now, on to final thoughts of the Apostle*

Romans 16:17-20. *Final Instructions*

17 I appeal to you, brothers, to ***watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught****; avoid them.*

18 For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

19 For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.

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

Romans 16:21-24 Final Greetings

*[21] **Timothy**, my fellow worker, greets you; so, do **Lucius** and **Jason** and **Sosipater,** my kinsmen.*

*[22] I **Tertius**, who wrote this letter, greet you in the Lord.*

*[23] **Gaius,** who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. **Erastus,** the city treasurer, and our brother **Quartus,** greet you.*

{[24] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen}

Romans 16:25-27 Doxology / Blessing

25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—

27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Romans is one of the most important books in the Bible. It lays out how God brings us back into relationship with him through Christ. People have called it "the most profound book in existence" and "the cathedral of the Christian faith." Martin Luther said it was "the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest gospel."

The major theme is righteousness, and the book moves in three steps:

***Chapters 1–8**: God reveals his righteousness.*

***Chapters 9–11**: God proves it true.*

***Chapters 12–16**: God shows us how to live it out.*

Paul starts with some hard news: everyone, Jew and Gentile alike, falls short. As he puts it, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Then comes the good news: God makes us right with him as a gift, through Christ's blood, and we receive it by faith alone.

Paul also wants Jews and Gentiles to come together in Christ. Jesus closes the gap between people and God, and he keeps the promises God made to Abraham long ago. Paul mixes teaching with practical advice, showing that who we are in Christ should change how we live. That means offering ourselves to God as a living sacrifice and caring for others, no matter their background or race.

Think of Romans as "the constitution of the church." It tells us what Christians believe about salvation and how to live that out together and in everyday life. ***It gives us the Roman Road to Salvation**.*

Beyond these things, the letter to the Romans tells us how to live in a very secular world and in a divided church. It affirms Gods love for His people, the enduring promises to the Jews, and it exhorts us to live together in community, all for the Glory of God.

Next week

We will start a new series. I will let you know this week

Pray for our Nation and its leaders, ***and the leaders elected***

- *Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and Peace for Israel*
- *Pray for the end of the wars, and the killing*

➢ *Pray for our State and its Leaders,* ***and the leaders elected***

➢ *Our Church, the Pastors and Leaders – safety and faithfulness*

➢ *Pray for the needs of our class members and families*

Thank God for his mercy and grace for each of us as we struggle with life. Pray that you will be empowered to turn over your life to righteousness.

Remember, we are the clay in the potters' hands, and our nation is also in His hands. Let God be God. He is the Good Shepherd, and we are the Sheep.