The Best News The World Has Ever Heard (Romans 1:1-7) Pastor Deric Thomas

(1) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, (2) which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, (3) concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh (4) and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, (5) through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, (6) including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, (7) To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [Romans 1:1-7 ESV]

(1) But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest (2) and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. (3) Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. (4) And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" (5) And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. [Acts 9:1-5 ESV]

Practical Application

- 1. The message of Christianity is the best news the world has ever heard. Let's tell everyone!
- 2. If God can save Saul/Paul He can save anyone. God can save and forgive you no matter your past.
- 3. Jesus sacrificially served us with His life, and now we have the privilege of serving Him and others.
- 4. Paul had a calling, and so do you. What is God's calling for your life? Are you living out His calling today?
- 5. How are you proclaiming the best news the world has ever heard?
- 6. Jesus fulfills all the gospel promises of the Old Testament. You can trust Him and the Bible.
- 7. Jesus fulfilled the Davidic Covenant (2 Sam. 7:12-13). Is Jesus your personal King?
- 8. Jesus is the eternal Son of God.
- 9. Do you live, walk, and trust in the power of God? We need God's power everyday to do God's will.
- 10. The resurrection of Jesus proves that all of His claims are true.
- 11. Obedience to God is the fruit of saving faith. Are you growing in obedience because you love Jesus?
- 12. Do you love the people of the world? How are you showing that love?
- 13. Is God calling you today? Respond to His calling with repentance, faith, and baptism.
- 14. You are loved by God. Rest in His great love today.
- 15. You are a saint that is called by God. Jesus' holiness is your holiness. Your position of holiness should lead to progressive growth in holiness.
- 16. God has grace for you today. Embrace His grace.
- 17. God has peace for you today. Receive His peace.
- 18. Have you been Fathered by God? If not, you can be starting today. He is a perfect Father.
- 19. Remember the good news every day, and share it with others!
- 20. As we continue this series through the book of Romans invite others to hear this good news each Sunday.

Announcements

- 1. **Fall Festival:** Join us next Sunday evening on October 22 from 5-7 for our Fall Festival! There will be games, food, and fun for the entire family.
- 2. Children's AWANA Program and Adult Small Group Bible Study are on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30.
- 3. New Small Group: Young Married Couples. Sunday's on campus @ 9am. See Ben and Lindsay Talley for details.
- 4. **Men's Ministry:** Join us for a Chili Cook-Off and Cornhole Tournament tonight at 5pm.
- 5. **Youth Event** (6th-12 graders): Join us for the Reverb Event on November 17-18. Contact David Barrero, our Youth Minister, for more details.
- 6. **Food Drive:** Help us feed our community in Jesus' name on October 21 (9am-1pm). If you are available let DonDee Osburn know, or just show up to serve.
- 7. **Church-wide Potluck Lunch:** Our next Sunday potluck lunch will be on October 29th. Enjoy a time of fellowship around the table with your faith family. Bring a covered dish that is enough to feed your family.