

# ROMANS

#### GENERAL FUND:

supports the ongoing weekly ministry that you and your family benefit from.

#### OUTREACH FUND:

supports our missionaries, local and global outreach partners and projects.

## BENEVOLENCE FUND: helps those in our church and community who may be facing a financial crisis.

#### BUILDING FUND:

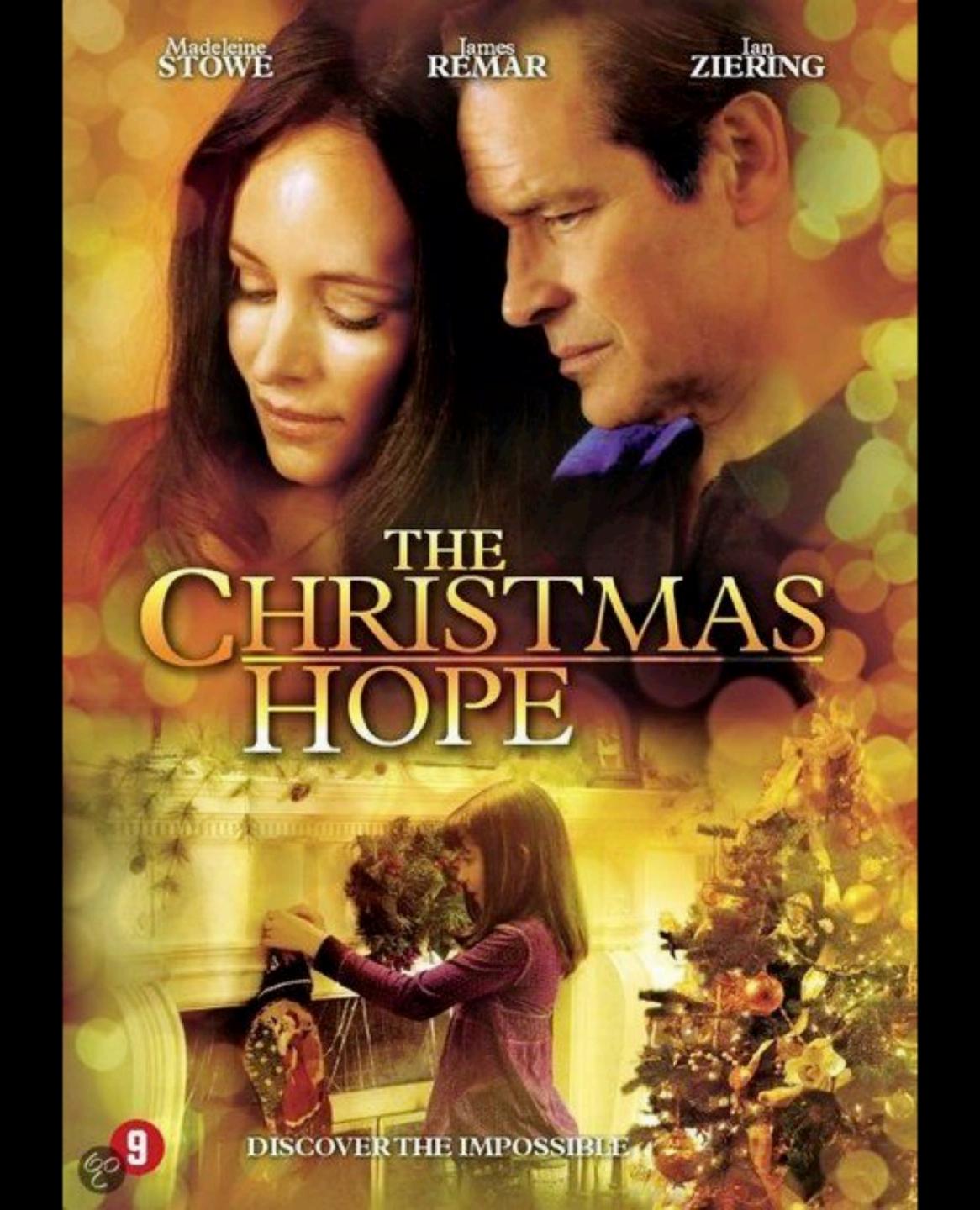
pays down our existing debt related to our two new buildings.











Greco-Roman cities were small, extremely crowded, filthy beyond imagining, disorderly, filled with strangers, and afflicted with frequent catastrophes-fires, plagues, conquests, and earthquakes...

Rome was dense with a people with an estimate of 302 persons per acre.

# As a comparison, in Chicago today there are 21 inhabitants per acre, New York 37 per acre, Bombay is 183 person per acre, and Calcutta has 122 persons per acre.

- Rodney Stark, Cities of God

One thing is certain when human density is high: urgent problems of sanitation arise. The stench of these cities must have been overpowering for many miles-especially in warm weather. No wonder they were fond of incense.

Moreover, Greco-Roman cities must have been smothered with flies, mosquitoes, and other insets that flourish where there is much stagnant water and exposed filth... The constant companion of filth, insects, and crowding is disease. The Greco-Roman city was a pesthole of infectious disease.

- Rodney Stark, Cities of God

# Part 1: The Gospel Saves (1-4) Part 2: The Gospel Transforms (5-11) Part 3: The Gospel Unites (12-16)

The Gospel that saves us, changes us; and the Gospel that changes us, unites us.

God has made a way for all people to enter into and enjoy a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Justification by faith alone in Christ alone is the only thing that can and will give you hope now and in the future.

#### THE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION:

1. Justification is the key to our transformation.

# THE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION: 2. Justification is experiential.

### 1. Unbreakable peace with God.

#### 2. Unhindered access to God.

3. Unshakeable hope in our future with God.

- Suffering leads to perseverance/endurance

(Romans 5:3)

- Perseverance leads to character

(Romans 5:4)

- Proven character leads to an ever-growing hope

(Romans 5:4)

4. Unfailing assurance of God's love for us.

## THE BENEFITS OF JUSTIFICATION: God has given us his very own Spirit to reassure our hearts of his love.

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified, how much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, how much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.