

Bible Study for December 12-18, 2022

Read: Romans 1:1-15

Notes:

If you want to attempt to explain the thinking behind Christianity, there is no better place to start than the book of Romans. While Paul never made it to Rome until he was arrested and sent there by the authorities, apparently the congregation was begun by some faithful Christians who may have been present on the day of Pentecost. Having heard about this congregation, it seems that Paul had written this letter a few years before arriving there, assuring them that we can have a right standing before God because of Christ's sacrifice, and our confidence in this is not because of what we have done, but due to what God has done for us.

In this book, Paul essentially looks at what it means to believe in Christ and what the implications of Jesus life, death, and resurrection mean for us. What does it mean for us that Jesus saves? What's behind all this, and what does it mean for our lives?

In this week's verses, Paul introduces himself to the congregation in Rome, as well as his intentions to visit them.

Questions to Ponder:

What is one place you've never seen that you'd still love to visit?

What do the words "servant" and "apostle" (vs 1) reveal about Paul?

From the use of the words "call" and "called", (vs 5-7) what does it mean to be a Christian?

Note all the "I" statements in these verses. What do they tell us about Paul?

What in these verses impresses you most about Paul?

How did God call you to Christ? Has that call changed over the years?