



The Best of Romans – Week 1 “Hope for Fractured Humanity”

Start with a few questions to get everyone talking. Choose questions that will work well with your group or family.

1. Paul begins this section of scripture with a bold statement and is willing to write it down and live by it. How willing are you to stand behind your faith in the face of adversity? Share some examples with your group. Read Genesis 12:10-13 to see how another patriarch handled fear in the face of death. Now compare Hebrews 11:24-26.
2. Read Jeremiah 29:1, and 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. How do these verses give you hope.
3. Consider the title “Hope for Fractured Humanity. Do you believe that the primary message of Christianity is that “God loves me?” Discuss with your group what they believe the primary message of Christianity is for them.

To introduce some different perspectives into the conversation, consider reading one of these verses together.

Genesis 12:10-13, Hebrews 11:24-26, Psalm 115:1, Ezekiel 36:16-27, Jeremiah 29:1, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

End each week with a challenge to take action. Lead your group to help each person identify their next steps.

Challenge Question: We live in a church culture that has a dangerous tendency to disconnect the grace of God from the

glory of God. If the primary message of Christianity is, “God loves me,” then who is the object of Christianity? God loves *me*.
–ME— Christianity’s object is ME???

Discuss how biblical Christianity is more properly rendered as, “God loves me so that I might make Him -- His ways, His salvation, His glory and His greatness -- known among all creation.” God is the object. Read Psalm 115:1 and Ezekiel 36:16-27 for additional insight.

Prayer: Pray in your group for courage and opportunities that the hope you have for fractured humanity would be proclaimed throughout your circle of influence.