



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture: **Romans 1** Title: **Brokenness Restored**

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Introduction/ Summary of Chapter
The book of Romans is written by the apostle Paul and it contains his fullest explanation of the Gospel, the good news about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The church in Rome was facing a crisis of division between the Jewish and non-Jewish believers. He writes to them to let them know that the gospel of Christ is what unifies the church. The gospel reveals God's righteousness to all people, creates a new people of God which fulfils God's promise to Israel. Romans 1 starts off with showing that all humanity, all the nations of the world are trapped in a cycle of sin and selfishness. Our human heart and mind are broken. We have turned away from God and chased after other created things. Instead of finding significance in God and living for God, we give our allegiance to these idols in our lives. Our humanity becomes distorted and the result is destruction and pain. So we stand before the righteous God, guilty as charged.

Key Verse(s) **How does it speak to me?**

16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes —the Jew first and also the Gentile.
This chapter reminds us that we need to acknowledge the brokenness of humankind: our heart and mind are broken, our relationships with each other and our connection with God are broken. And most of all, we need to see the broken heart of God. But verse 16 assures us *that the Good News about Christ is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.* The Gospel is here to restore all that was broken. Christ' body was broken on our behalf and His blood was shed so that we can give allegiance to the true King, God Himself. Sometime back, one of our relatives suddenly passed away. He was a young professional at the peak of his career and life. His parents were broken-hearted and they themselves were in the midst of treatment and recovery from cancer. It was a very difficult time for them. All the things they had previously depended on--their son, their health and their wealth, were either taken away or failed them. But in all that pain and turmoil, just recently, the mother heard the Gospel, turned to God and became a Christian. She found much comfort and strength from God and is now awaiting the opportunity to be baptized. When she shifted her focus from those former things and focused on God, she found restoration in Jesus, not only for her physical body but her spirit. The father also started talking about the time when he was attending church in his youth. He even sang some hymns which he could still remember. We are praying for him. Indeed, the good news of Jesus Christ is the power of God to save and restore our broken relationship with God.

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult: Confess an area of brokenness in your life you need God to restore.

Youth: Pray for someone who needs the Good News, the power of God to save them.

Child: Have you prayed for Jesus to be your Best Friend and Saviour? Pray with your parents or a Children's Church teacher if you are ready to do so.

PRAYER

Praying Scripture: Dear heavenly Father, thank You for the power of the Gospel at work, saving everyone who believes, and restoring all that had been broken in our lives. We pray for our daily recognition of our brokenness and our great need for You to heal and to make whole. Break our pride and self-sufficiency. May You also use us to share this Good News to those broken hearts around us.

Thanksgiving Prayer: I/We thank You for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)

Intercessory Prayer: I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)

Salvation Prayer: I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.