



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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Romans 1:1-15 Study Hints for Discussion

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below. It can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the *Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout*, which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. First and foremost, how do we identify or describe ourselves?

We can describe ourselves to others when appropriate as servants of Jesus Christ, but we can always consider ourselves as servants of Jesus Christ in all we do. We can let our Light shine wherever we go. Though there are no true apostles today in the New Testament sense, we can consider ourselves set apart for the gospel of God, for we are called to be saints.

2. What did Paul say about Jesus?

Through God’s prophets, God prophesied that Jesus, the Son of God, would come. In His fully human nature, Jesus was descended from King David. Jesus was declared the Son of God with power in all He did, and especially when He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. Jesus Christ manifested the Spirit of holiness, and He is the Messiah and our Lord.

3. What did Paul say the followers of Jesus have received from Jesus?

They have received the gospel of God concerning His Son, Jesus. They have received grace and the teachings of the apostles so they can have faith and

obey Jesus for the sake of Jesus' Name. They belong to Jesus Christ and God has called them to be saints. They have received the prayers of Paul.

4. For what did Paul give thanks? For what do believers today give thanks?

Paul gave thanks that their faith was proclaimed. In the case of the faith of the Roman Christians, their faith as a Church or as a body of believers was proclaimed throughout the Roman Empire and beyond. Second question for class discussion.

5. How do you think Paul spent his free time as he waited to go to Rome?

He prayed and he announced the gospel of Jesus Christ wherever he was, and that included writing letters to Christian Churches. Paul did whatever Jesus wanted him to do wherever he was. If Paul had not been delayed in going to Rome, we probably would not have his Letter to the Romans, for he would have had no reason or time to write it.

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