
Wednesday Night Bible Study Online

Have you met anyone enthusiastic about something? Or even to the point of being zealous? We might see through the plethora of social media and an electronically connected society, the actions of people which doesn't add up or we don't know the value of what they're doing. In tonight's study, we see Paul is far from condemning the Jews as godless and irreligious. However, the zeal which has no basis on truth is not enough. Otherwise, it can do more harm than good. There are times where one's zealousness creates blindfolds for seeing the right or the whole picture.

Sometimes we can't see the bushland for the trees.

Tonight, and maybe over a couple of weeks, we will be studying Romans 10. Let's pray together and read it.

With this study, we are going to change things up in how it's constructed. Usually, I would write the questions down and we would discuss it. This time, I am going to ask you to look at the chapter and formulate your questions as a group. I will provide on the share screen the tools I use when writing a Bible study.

The purpose of this is to enhance our study of the text further. In turn, it will also be useful to hear and understand other people's approaches to how we know God's truth from Scripture. We won't necessarily get through the whole chapter tonight and that's okay. I have segmented the chapter to make it easier with some clues to how we could write a question.

1. Let's consider Romans 10:1-4 and pick out the key clauses which may shape our question and then our answer.
 - Why was Paul reprimanding the Jews about their Law?
 - Was their zeal not according to God's righteousness?
 - Why did the Jews seek to establish their own righteousness?
 - If the Jews were God's people, why do they need to be saved?
 - What were they doing that demonstrated their misguided zeal for God?
 - How is Christ the end of the law?
 - Does this mean Jews and Gentiles? Everyone who believes?
 - Does righteousness require submission?
 - What was the purpose of the law until Christ came?

2. Develop some questions based on what Paul quoted from Moses in 10:5-8.
 - How is Christ brought down from heaven?
 - How is Christ brought up from the dead?
 - What is the difference between the righteousness of the law and the righteousness of faith?
 - Why is Paul bringing up the ascension to heaven and the descent into the abyss?
 - What part of the Torah is Paul quoting?
 - How is the word near you?

3. What sort of question would you write for 10:9-13. Think about how this applies to non-believers as well as evangelism.
 - What is Paul trying to establish in relation to faith?
 - How can a person be saved?
 - Why does Paul differentiate between mouth and heart?
 - How are people richly blessed?
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4. Romans 10:14-15 is a set of questions by themselves. Is there a topical question we could ask?
 - Is Paul talking to people who don't fully know the Torah?
 - What is the mechanism, Paul is describing for spreading out the good news?
 - Who is responsible for sharing the good news?
 - Who is sending the person?
 - Where is it written "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news?"
 - What makes beautiful feet?
 - How would we define a preacher in today's context?
 - Is the preacher the only one passing on the good news?
 - What defines a preacher?

5. Develop a question about faith from 10:15-18.
 - What is faith based on?
 - Where did they hear about faith?
 - Who is "their"?
 - How is faith based on "hearing the message?"

6. Shape a question from the Old Testament passages that Paul quotes in 10:19-21.
 - Why was Israel not understanding?
 - How come there are people who don't understand today?
 - How can you find something if you're not actually seeking it?
 - Why would God manifest himself to someone who didn't even ask?
 - In verse 19, Moses says "I will make you envious and I will make you angry." Why?
 - Who was Isaiah speaking of in verse 20?
 - Why does God still persist with people who are disobedient and obstinate?

7. Now that we have come to the end of the passage, what sort of introduction would you write?

8. Let's develop a theme for the Bible Study we have constructed.

9. What have you learned tonight?

10. Have you been encouraged through this exercise?

11. Have you grown in your ability to study the book of Romans?