

## Evangelism in Romans

*Probably no other book in the Bible gives us more training in sharing our faith than Paul's letter to the Romans. The letter is filled with numerous principles for evangelism. The following is only a partial list of universal truths related to the gospel, evangelism, and salvation.*

### I. Nature of the Gospel

- A. Jesus Christ is the focus of the gospel (1:1-6; 16:25-27).
- B. The gospel is the focal point of evangelism and OT promises (1:3-4).
- C. Christ's resurrection in gospel preaching proves him as God's Son (1:4).
- D. The gospel is for everyone (1:14; 3:22a-24; 10:12; 16:26).
- E. Gospel preaching releases God's saving power (Rom. 1:15, 16).
- F. The gospel reveals God's righteousness (1:17a).
- G. Faith is the means to receive the gospel (1:17b; 3:27b; 4:13).
- H. The gospel includes God's judgment on sin (2:16).
- I. The gospel shows God's love for us (5:8).
- J. God's power in the gospel can bring forth signs and miracles (15:19).
- K. The gospel was a mystery in the OT that is now revealed (16:25-26).

### II. State of the Unsaved

- A. All unsaved people need the gospel (1:18–3:20).
- B. Wicked people deserve God's wrath (1:18a; 2:5-6).
- C. Suppressing the gospel is due to our wickedness, not ignorance (1:18b).
- D. All people know through creation about an all-powerful God (1:20).
- E. God will judge based on one's conscience and the light they have (2:15-16).
- F. Every person for whom Christ died is an ungodly sinner (3:10-18; 5:6-8).
- G. The lost are objects of God's wrath to whom he shows patience (9:22).

### III. Reasons We Should Share the Gospel

- A. God calls us to preach the gospel (1:1).
- B. We have an obligation to the unsaved (1:14).
- C. The gospel alone saves lives (1:16).

- D. The gospel can be received free (3:24; 4:4-5).
- E. The gospel highlights the unconditional love of God (5:6-8).
- F. The gospel makes us acceptable to God (5:15b, 17b, 18b, 19b, 21b).
- G. Evangelism grants people eternal life (5:18, 21b).
- H. Evangelism transforms slaves of sin into slaves of righteousness (6:16).
- I. The Spirit is already praying for people in ways we do not know (8:26).
- J. God has already chosen people to save (8:30, 33).
- K. Christ is praying for us, too (8:34).
- L. God works everything for good when we love him and are called to salvation (8:28, 30).
- M. No one can be saved by physical descent alone (9:6-8).
- N. People cannot believe in Christ without someone to tell them (10:14-15).
- O. God never changes his mind about calling people to salvation (11:29).
- P. The gospel frees us from caring only for ourselves (14:7; 15:1).
- Q. Evangelism is the believer's priestly duty to unbelievers (15:16).
- R. We want all nations to believe and obey God (16:26).

#### **IV. Results of Evangelism**

- A. Evangelism encourages faith that leads to obedience (1:5).
- B. The gospel enables mutual encouragement (1:12).
- C. It opens the door for unbelievers to enter the spiritual family of Abraham (4:16).
- D. Baptism pictures the changed life brought about by the gospel (6:1-4).
- E. Christ's gospel conquers sin's grasp on us (7:24-25).
- F. Christians are free from the fear of death (8:1).
- G. God gives his Spirit to indwell all who trust Christ (8:9).
- H. Evangelism brings us into an intimate relationship with God (8:15).
- I. The Spirit confirms to us that we are God's children (8:16).
- J. God assures us that we are his forever (8:28-39).
- K. People can become part of a new, united family of faith (12:5).

- L. God grants spiritual gifts to those who accept Christ (12:6-8).
- M. The gospel enables us to love others (13:8-10).
- N. God gives us more concern for others than for ourselves (14:1–15:13).
- O. Evangelism frees people from legalism (14:1).
- P. The gospel enables mutual teaching (15:14).
- Q. God empowers the message (15:18).
- R. Evangelism leads to care for the poor (15:26-29)
- S. The gospel establishes us (16:25).

## V. Results of Salvation

- A. Salvation regenerates sinful man (2:29).
- B. Salvation results in God considering us “not guilty” of sin (3:24a).
- C. Salvation results in God redeeming us from Satan’s grasp (3:24b).
- D. Salvation results in God atoning for our sins (3:25).
- E. Salvation results in God satisfying his justice in punishing sin (3:25-26).
- F. Salvation should lead to humility (3:27; 11:17-18).
- G. Salvation credits righteousness to a believer’s “account” (4:23-24; 6:22).
- H. Salvation brings peace with God (5:1).
- I. Salvation gives us access to God’s presence (5:2).
- J. Salvation brings joy from knowing our future hope (5:2b).
- K. Salvation brings joy in present sufferings (5:3).
- L. Salvation changes us from God’s enemies to his friends (5:8-11).
- M. Salvation saves us from God’s wrath and condemnation (5:9; 8:1).
- N. Salvation frees us from obedience to the Mosaic Law (6:14).
- O. Salvation sets us free from things that result in death (6:21-22; 8:37).
- P. Salvation frees us from bondage to sin (7:4).
- Q. Salvation enables us to be controlled by the Spirit (8:9).
- R. Salvation eventually gives us a new body (8:11, 30; 14:9).

- S. Salvation shows God's great mercy to those He prepares for glory (9:23).
- T. Salvation gives us an appreciation for the messenger (10:15).
- U. Salvation gives believers a compassion for one another (14:13)

## VI. Tips for Sharing the Gospel

- A. Preach the gospel with your whole heart and passion (1:9).
- B. Pray for open doors to share the gospel (1:10).
- C. Be patient for the right time to share (1:13a).
- D. Persevere in evangelism despite hindrances (1:13b).
- E. Be eager to share the gospel (1:15).
- F. Never be ashamed to share the gospel (1:16a).
- G. Begin sharing the gospel where you are now (1:16b).
- H. Share people's needs before sharing Christ as the answer (1:18–3:20).
- I. See idolatry as a rejection of God rather than ignorance (1:23).
- J. Do not neglect to emphasize repentance (2:5).
- K. Help people to *obey*—not just hear—the law (2:13).
- L. Help each person admit that he or she is a sinner (3:23).
- M. Be clear that the gospel is a gift—not a wage—from God (5:15-16; 6:23).
- N. Share Christ with all people (5:18).
- O. Use the law to reveal sin in others—not as a means of salvation (7:7).
- P. Recognize that sin will be active in people throughout this life (7:14-23).
- Q. Expect to suffer for proclaiming the message (8:18).
- R. Focus not on struggles of sharing but on our future rewards (8:18-19).
- S. Be willing even to go to hell for those you're trying to reach (9:1-2).
- T. Genuinely desire people to be saved (10:1).
- U. Recognize that faith is simpler than most admit (10:6-8).
- V. Get people to confess with their mouths that Jesus is God (10:9-10).
- W. Speak the gospel since faith comes only by hearing the message (10:17).

- X. Note that God does not reject people—they reject God (11:1).
- Y. When someone rejects the gospel, go to the next person (11:11).
- Z. First, submit yourself to the Lordship of Christ (12:1).
- AA. Add giving to gospel preaching—especially to believers (12:13a).
- BB. Practice hospitality (12:13b).
- CC. Be at peace with everyone (12:18).
- DD. Bless your enemies with practical care to help them repent (12:20).
- EE. Obey civil authorities as an example to unbelievers (13:1-7).
- FF. Never feel that you love others enough (13:8-10).
- GG. Share the gospel now rather than later (13:11).
- HH. Do everything for God's glory (14:17-18; 15:17-18; 16:27).
- II. Never weaken the truths of the gospel in your lifestyle (Rom. 15:14).
- JJ. Talk about what God has done for you—not vice versa (15:18)
- KK. Give priority to sharing where the gospel hasn't gone (15:20).
- LL. Sharing your faith in a personal visit is better than a letter (15:23-24).
- MM. Care for other believers as an example of God's love (15:23-29).
- NN. Pray for others bringing forth the gospel message (15:30).
- OO. Pray against those trying to thwart the message (15:31).
- PP. Share the message of Christ with a joyful heart (15:32).
- QQ. Don't underestimate women as partners in the gospel (16:1).
- RR. Partner with many others in bringing forth the message (16:1-16).
- SS. Be experts at doing good and innocent about doing evil (16:19).

Grading of Assignment: Start with 100 and deduct for these missing elements:

- 5 for poor grammar and/or typos
- 5 if under 20 elements are listed
- 5 if exegesis is lacking on two or more points
- 10 if made mostly observations rather than universal principles