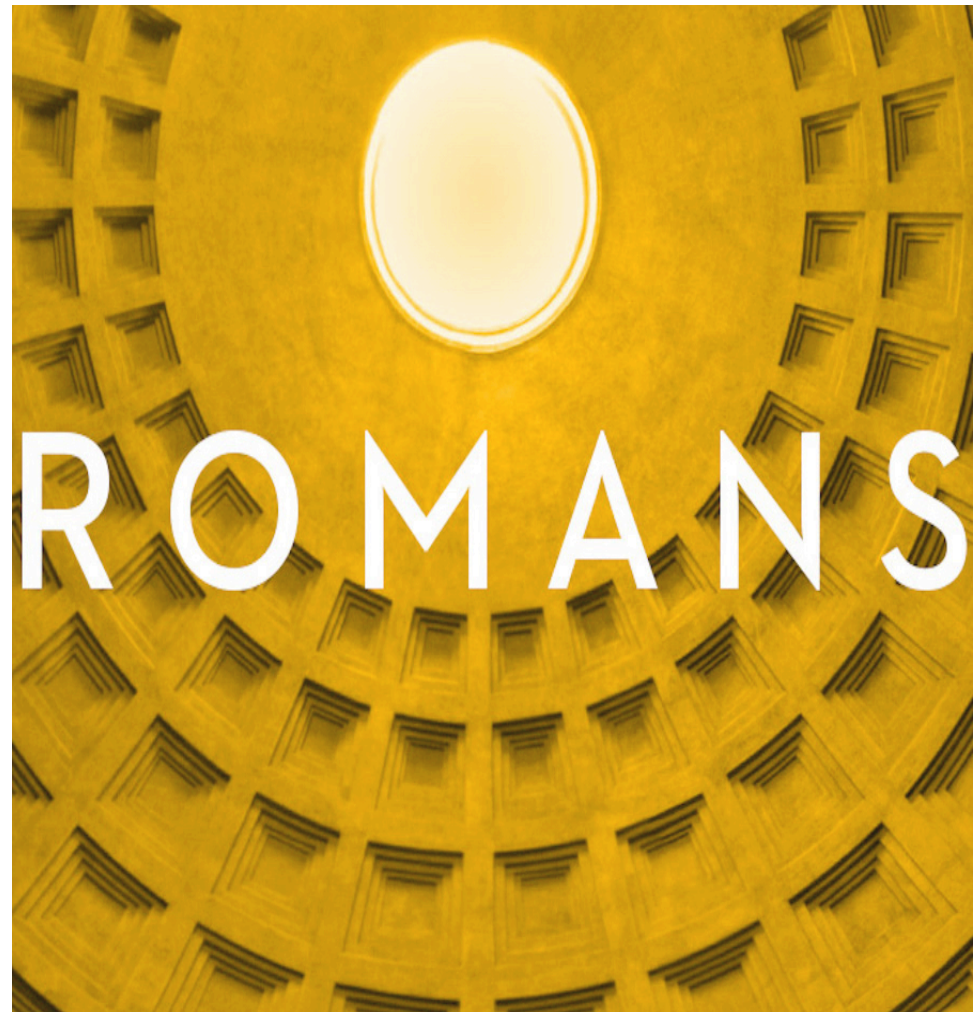


## Life Group / Reflection Questions

### Read Romans 1:18-32

- *When you observe the world around you. Do you tend to have a positive or negative view of people? Why or Why not?*
- *Why do think Paul finds it necessary to depict humanity in such a hopeless condition? How does this depiction relate to the Gospel he presented to us in Romans 1:1-17*
- *What is the Wrath of God and why is it being revealed?*
- *Why do you think suppressing God's truth is such a big deal to God? How do we suppress God's truth? Romans 1:18*
- *Paul tells us that humanity is without excuse to know and worship God. Read Romans 1:19-23? How does God make himself known? Do you believe all humanity is without excuse?*
- *This Sunday we discovered that "Sinful desires / Lusts" seen in Romans 1:24 is best translated as "Over-Desires." Which over-desires do you struggle most with? Do any of the sins Paul mentions describe you?*
- *Several times Paul tells us "God gave humanity up to their over-desires." What is the result of God allowing us to seek after the over-desires of our hearts? Does God giving us up have any positive results for our relationship with God? Has God given you up to an area of over-desire?*
- *How can we keep the depravity of the world from driving us towards self-righteousness, but rather to the Gospel of God's Righteousness?*
- *If we are honest we all have a place in this passage of scripture. We are all totally depraved. How does this passage draw out the self-righteous tendencies in our hearts?*
- *From this scripture, what do we learn about God?*
- *From this scripture, what do we learn about ourselves?*
- *How am I to relate to God in light of this passage?*
- *How am I responding to the Gospel? In light of this passage? Do you see your own need for the Gospel? Why?*



**May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
***"Worship Gone Sideways"***  
**Wave Church SD**

**LIVE FREE... LIVE JESUS...**  
*Wave exists to set lives free to live fully alive with Jesus*

**“Worship Gone Sideways”**  
**Romans 1:18-32**

**Apart from the Gospel all humanity is under the power of sin and exposed to the wrath of God**

**Romans 1:18** <sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

**God's Wrath = God's settled, fair, right anger towards sin**

**WHY IS GOD'S WRATH BEING REVEALED?**

**Romans 1:19-22** <sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

- **Godlessness – A Disregard for God's rights.**
- **Wickedness – A Disregard for Human Rights**

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE OR DEPEND ON GOD AS OUR GOD?**

- **We don't stop worshiping, we simply exchange the object of our worship**
- **This great exchange in our worship undoes the created order.**

**Romans 1:23** <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

**HOW IS GOD'S WRATH BEING REVEALED?**

**Romans 1:24-25** <sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

- **God's judgment on godlessness and wickedness is to give us what we want**

**Sinful Desires (NIV) / Lusts (ESV) = Over-Desire**

**Romans 1:26-32** <sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. <sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. <sup>29</sup> They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

- **Sexual** – Lust, Impurity, Homosexuality
- **Economic** – Greed, Envy, Covetousness
- **Social** – Murder, Strife, Deceit, Gossip, Slander, Malice
- **Family** – Disobedience to parents, Foolishness
- **Spiritual** – Unrighteous, Haters of God, Faithless, Creators of Evil

**FOUR RESPONSES TO PAUL'S DARK VIEW OF HUMANITY**

1. **Confess where your worship has gone sideways**
2. **Adopt a Biblical View of Human fallen-ness**
3. **Avoid Moralism: The self-righteous Judgment of others**
4. **Do not fear God's wrath because we have received his righteousness**