

**Sermon Handout**  
**Sunday, January 5, 2025**  
**Central Church of Christ**

**Road to Redemption: The Heart of the Gospel**  
**By Paul Webster**

**Introduction to Romans:** Paul writes to the Church in Rome, a church he did not start, to prepare them for his visit and to establish a base for further missionary work. The Church in Rome was initially Jewish-Christians but became predominantly Gentile after the expulsion of Jews by Emperor Claudius.

**Main Points:**

- 1. Sin is the Problem...** All humanity is guilty of sin, having turned away from God's righteousness. Sin separates us from God, and no human effort can resolve this problem.
- 2. God's Judgement is Righteous and Just...** God is just and His righteousness demands an objective standard of justice. Paul declares that all have sinned and God must judge sin.
- 3. The Gospel is the Solution...** Salvation is offered through Jesus Christ, who redeems us by His blood. Justification is a free gift of grace, not earned by works but received through faith in Jesus.

**Bottom Line:** Our sin is great, but God's grace is greater.

**Remember:** The Gospel unites us, making peace with God possible for all who believe. The Church must root itself deeply in the Gospel to be a beacon of hope and unity.

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. What does it mean that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"?
2. How does understanding God's grace change the way we view our own sin and the sins of others?
3. In what ways can we unite around the Gospel in our family and community?
4. How can we apply the message of justification by faith in our daily lives?
5. Why is it important to preach the Gospel, and how can we do this in our everyday interactions?

**Scripture References:** Romans 1:16–17, Romans 3:21–26, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:8–9, Galatians 5:19–26

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