

QUESTIONS TO PONDER—What did you find most interesting, encouraging, confusing, convicting in this week’s reading?

1. Sunday, May 7; Rom. 1:18-23; Evidence of God is Everywhere. With whom is God angry and why (18)? Why is suppressing the truth wrong (19)? What is the Truth of God (20)? Why is verse 20 a key component in understanding God’s divine nature as well as having faith in Him? What does God long for people to do (21a)? What do most people do instead (21b)? What do these same people think of themselves (22)? What is the truth about them instead according to God? Why (23)? **Personal Application:** Add verse 1:20 to your Romans list. How do you or I see God in nature? How/why is this topic so controversial? Why are you or I certain of our stances?

2. Monday, May 8; Rom. 1:24-32; Choosing Sin over God. What is the consequence for rejecting Creator God (24-26)? What is “the lie”(25)? What are the shameful lusts (26-27)? What is the consequence (27b)? Without nurturing our “knowledge of God,” what happens (28)? Why does God give us over to human depravity rather than forcing Himself on us for our own good? What four categories of sin are listed in 29a? What are the sins that fall under these categories (29b-32)? Are these evil-doers in their right minds (32)? What makes it worse (32b)? **Personal Application:** In your journal write down the headings: greed, depravity, wickedness, and evil. Place the sins from 29b-32 under a category. What are your thoughts regarding sinful behavior? Add verse 25 to your Romans list.

3. Tuesday, May 9; Rom. 2:1-5; God’s Judgment. Read all verses and Bible notes first. What are the people of 2:1 judging (see 1:32)? What is wrong with judging those with very bad behavior (see notes on 1 and 3 and read Matthew 7:1-2 and notes)? Why must you and I look inwardly at our own behavior measuring ourselves against Christ (3)? How does God judge those who live sinfully out of His will (2)? Paul claims that God judges based on the light/truth that person had. How does this remove man’s judgment from the picture (3)? How are these believers being hypocritical? How are they being prideful instead of humble (4)? Why is God kind and patient? How have these Roman believers angered God (5)? When with the righteous be judged? **Personal Application:** Reflect on the difference between good judgment and judging others.

4. Wednesday, May 10; Rom. 2:6-11; Rewards and Consequences for Choices. Read all verses with Bible notes. Explain verse 6 in light of knowing the truth that salvation is a gift for any who will receive it and not based on works. (*Titus 3:4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.*) What does it mean to persist in doing good (7)? How do you seek glory, honor and immortality? Who receives wrath and anger (8)? What are the consequences for pursuing evil (9)? Is anyone exempt? What are the rewards for following God (10)? Is anyone exempt? How is God fair and just (11)? **Personal Application:** Reflect on how the art of pursuing God is woven into your daily activities of life.

5. Thursday, May 11; Rom. 2:12-16; Gentiles and the Law. Read all verses with Bible notes. According to verse 12, is there much hope for people who are either apart from or under the law? What must a person who is under the law do to be declared righteous (13)? How does hearing or knowing the law help a person? When will this judgment take place (16 and Ecc. 12:14)? Concerning Gentiles who are not under the Jewish law, how are they judged (14)? Do they have their own law and where is it written (15)? **Personal Application:** What are your thoughts about the heart and conscience of an unbeliever? What are your thoughts on judgment apart from the law and according to the law?

6. Friday, May 12; Rom 2:17-24; Jews and the Law. Read all verses with Bible notes. List all of the behaviors and activities on which the Roman Jews were relying (17-20). What was God’s concern about their own personal hearts (21-23)? How were they dishonoring God (23)? Why was God’s name being blasphemed (24, Ezek. 36:22)? **Personal Application:** Consider your own behavior or actions as they compare to your inner heart or mine. Do they match? Are your actions in any way dishonoring to God?

7. Saturday, May 13; Rom. 2:25-29; Circumcision of the Heart Matters. Read all verses with notes. What was the purpose of circumcision (Genesis 17:1-14)? What value did circumcision once have (25a)? When is circumcision of no value (25b)? What is the heart of the matter regarding circumcision (26-29)? Who did Paul say would condemn the Jewish people still practicing the law and why (27)? What constitutes a true Jew (28-29)? What constitutes true circumcision (28-29)? **Personal Application:** Define what “circumcision of the heart by the Spirit” is. **Cindy Oury. 5.4.17**