SESSION 1: Sept. 4, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, boys and girls began a study of the book of Romans. Romans is in the genre of letters and a part of the division of Paul's Letters. Written by Paul to the church in Rome, the book captures Paul's longing to visit the city and share the gospel with the people in Rome. Paul shared with the believers his calling to share the gospel with all types of people—the wise, the foolish, the Jew, and the Gentile. Then Paul reminded the believers that it was through God's power that we are saved. As a family, review God's plan for salvation and invite kids to ask any questions they may have about becoming a Christian. Then check out the discussion questions on the back of this week's Family Card.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Romans 1:1-17
MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 2:4-5
BIBLE VERSE: Romans 1:16
OLDER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: The gospel is the power of God and reveals His righteousness to everyone who believes.
YOUNGER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: The gospel reveals that it is through God's power that we are saved.

Paul's Letter to the Romans
Romans 1:1-17

Paul was a follower of Jesus and a missionary. Paul wrote letters to believers and churches to help them understand how God wanted them to live. While Paul was in the city of Corinth and on the way to the city of Jerusalem, Paul wrote a letter to the Christians in the city of Rome.

In Bible times, letters often began with the writer sharing his name and who he was. Paul began his letter by telling the people that he was an apostle and that God called him to share the gospel. Then Paul reminded the church that Jesus kept the many promises the prophets had made in Scripture. The prophets promised in Scripture that Jesus would come. Jesus would come from the family of David. Jesus came as fully human, but He also was fully God. Because of Jesus, we can receive grace and tell others about Jesus.

Then Paul explained that this letter was for those in Rome who were loved by God and called to be His people. Paul was thankful that he had heard about the faith of the Roman Christians. Paul shared that he was praying for the church constantly. He even prayed that he would be able to visit them one day if that was God's will. God had called Paul to share the gospel with all types of people—Jews, Gentiles, those who had been to school, those who had not been to school, the wise, and the foolish. Paul really wanted to visit and share the gospel with the people in Rome.

Paul understood that people who do not believe in Jesus might think the gospel is strange. Some people might even think that the gospel was silly, but Paul was not worried about what these people thought. Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel." The gospel reveals that it is through God's power that we are saved. Paul also reminded the church that the followers of Jesus live by faith.

Paul wrote many, many things in his letter to the Romans because Paul wanted to help the Romans fully understand the gospel and how to live their lives in a way that brought glory to God.