

## MAIN POINT

*The gospel is the good news that Jesus Christ has died for our sins on the cross and rose from the dead for our salvation.*

## INTRODUCTION

Can you think of some times in your life that you received good news? What was it? How did it make you feel?

Have you ever had the privilege of relaying unexpected good news to someone else? How did it make you feel to be able to tell good news?

**The gospel of Jesus Christ is the best news that the world has ever known. The wonder of knowing that God is real, that He loves us, and that He offers forgiveness for our sins through the atoning death of His Son Jesus is simply incredible. Finding out that death has been defeated by the resurrection of Christ is more than we could have dreamed. It is amazing to hear this good news, and it is a privilege to tell it to others.**

## DISCUSSION

### > READ ROMANS 1:1-15.

The first title Paul uses to identify himself was “servant.” Given that he easily could have chosen a more impressive or authoritative title, what does this indicate about his motives? What does it look like to serve Jesus by speaking and ministering to others?

The second way Paul described himself is as an apostle, often defined as “one sent on a mission.” Does this suggest that Paul saw his mission work as being a part of his life, or his very identity?

What does it mean to be “set apart for the gospel of God” (v. 1)? As a believer in Jesus, do you believe you are set apart for the stewardship of His gospel? What difference would it make in your life if you daily reminded yourself of this truth?

What truths about Jesus Christ did Paul proclaim in this passage?

Word of the Roman Christians’ faith spread throughout the ancient world. How can we steward our resources, time, and talents to the work and relationships that help other people see Christ?

How do we “serve with [our] spirit in the gospel of His son” (v. 9)?

How do we mutually encourage one another with our faith (v. 12)? In what way can that utilize our unique talents to impart a spiritual gift that strengthens others (v. 11)?

What does it mean to reap a harvest among others (v. 13)?

## APPLICATION

In what ways is our church taking seriously Jesus’ concern for others and reaching more people in His name? How can we (as individuals and as a group) join in what our church is doing?