SMALL GROUP RESOURCE

Big Idea: We are sinners.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

These scripture readings provide the context for the phrases that Paul uses in constructing Romans 3:9-20

Psalm 14 Psalm 5 Psalm 140 Psalm 10 Isaiah 59:1-9 Psalm 36

John 3:16-21

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Romans 3:1-31

Paul uses a Jewish teach style called "remez" when he makes his case for the evil of man.

What do you learn about mankind from Romans 3 and the other scripture readings?

What have you learned about God that may not be obvious from Romans 3 alone?

Why does Paul choose to put so much emphasis on how evil we all are?

William Barclay points out that we can view a relationship through the eyes of responsibility or privilege. How did the Jews view their relationship with God? What role did the law play in shaping their view?

What similarities are there between the attitudes of the Jews of Paul's day and American Christians today? What message do you think Paul is attempting to communicate to us now?

What is the solution to the problem of evil regardless of time or place?

PRAYER FOCUS:

Thank you, Father, for giving me hope when I am confronted with my sinfulness.

Father, I place my confidence in you and in the blood of Jesus Christ.

Help me to respond to You with gratitude and obedience.

FAMILY RESOURCE

Big Idea: We are sinners.

READ ROMANS 3:1-2

Why was Paul happy that he was a Jew? Name a job that you were picked for. Why did you like or hate the job?

READ ROMANS 3:3

How do your thoughts and behavior change God? How does your choice of bedtime change the sunrise?

READ ROMANS 3:5-8

How do you make God look good or bad?
Stand in several comparison lineups youngest to oldest; tallest to shortest, etc.
Do others change because of where you are in the line?

READ ROMANS 3:19-20

Make a list of laws that you know.

Do you always obey the laws that you know?

Does knowing about a law make you worried or confident?

READ ROMANS 3:21-26

Who can be good without Jesus? Look up the word "righteous" in the dictionary.

READ ROMANS 3:27-30

Look at the list of laws that you made.

How do these laws help you?

Draw a line through each law that you have broken.

Should these laws be done away with? Why or why not?

MEMORY VERSE:

	, then, shall we	_ in response to	_?
If _	is for us,	_ can be against us?	
	He who did not spare	his own,	
but	Him up for us a	all—how will He not also,	
along with	Him, graciously	us all	?
		_ 8:31-32	

CRYPTOGRAM

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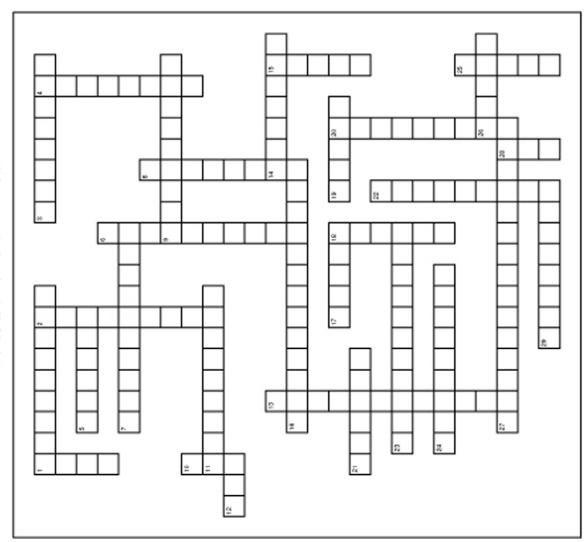
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Romans 3:1-31

All words are from the NIV Bible.



- lie (Romans 3:7) called (Romans 3:20)
- poisonous snakes (Romans 3:13) bias or partiality (Romans 3:22) given (Romans 3:2) benefit (Romans 3:1)
 - - 9. -
- chosen people of God (Romans 3:1)
 - witness (Romans 3:21
- 24.67.6.5
- holiness (Romans 3:21) the earth and the people in it (Romans 3:6) gift (Romans 3:24)

- 21. not fair (Romans 3:5)
 23. responsible (Romans 3:19)
 24. made right (Romans 3:24)
 26. obligated to obey (Romans 3:19)
 27. ungodly behavior (Romans 3:5)
 29. quieted (Romans 3:5)

- awesome respect (Romans 3:18)
 obeying (Romans 3:20)
 A. left out (Romans 3:27)
 b. buying back, price paid for (Romans 3:24)
 8. spokesmen for God (Romans 3:21)
 10. rules of God (Romans 3:19)
 13. a physical definition of a Jew (Romans 3:1)
 15. belief that is active (Romans 3:22)
 18. the telling of lies (Romans 3:13)
 20. aware (Romans 3:20)
 22. guilty (Romand 3:7)
 25. looks for (Romans 3:11)
 28. the breaking of God's law (Romans 3:9)

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Romans 3:1-31

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difference observing	seeks	justified	unjust	circumcision	vipers	
redemption world	unrighteousness	under	testify	accountable	prophets	
silenced conscious	condemned	deceit	fear	law	declared	Jew
grace entrusted	falsehood	faith	excluded	righteousness	sin	advantage

Romans 3:1-31

All words are from the NIV Bible.

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2. EONDMPIETR	
3. LWA	
4. NIELCSDE	1 1 1 1 1 1
5. EONNECDDM	
6. TNTUEEDSR	
7. EIDWFTIS	
8. SCUOCIOSN	
9. EADOSOHLF	
10. CDDEELXU	
11. WRLDO	
12. UUNSJT	
13. ESEKS	
14. EANAVGATD	
15. PEPTSRHO	
16. GTESUSNHESRIO	
17. UORCCIIMSICN	
18. SNI	
19. IRSVPE	
20. ALCNUCOTEAB	
21. ESTYFIT	
22. RDEUN	
23. ECRAG	
24. FREA	
25. HIRSUOSNNTSUEGE	
26. DICTEE	
27. TIAHF	
28. ESORBNIVG	
29. WEJ	
30. DEIRCFENEF	