



Sermon Discussion Guide

August 24, 2025 | Romans 1:18-32 | Brad

SUMMARY

Big Idea: God is Right, to Punish Wrong

From 1:18 through 3:20, Paul's aim is to show us why the gospel he declared in 1:16-17 is such good news, for everyone. He does this by showing the universal need for salvation. As humanity stands now, everyone stands guilty and under wrath, because we are altogether unrighteous. We need God's righteousness, and in the gospel, that is exactly what God gives to us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro:

1. Is there anything about God that you would change? Why?
 - a. How would such a change make God, cease to be the God of the Bible?

Read Romans 1:18-23 (Why is God's wrath revealed?)

2. On what grounds is God's wrath justified?
 - a. What does everyone know?
 - i. How does this knowledge include an inescapable God-ward orientation to all of life, and oughtness to our lives, and accountability?
 - b. What does everyone fail to do?
 - c. What does everyone do instead? *(see pg 2 for more idolatry-related questions)*
3. How do you respond to the following statement, "The problem with humanity is not merely that we are able to create idols, the problem is that we can't stop."

Read Romans 1:24-32 (How is God's wrath revealed?)

4. In what way is God's wrath displayed in the past? The Future? The present?
5. How does Paul go to great lengths to show that God's wrath is perfectly fair?
 - a. How does the sin that God gives us up to relate, in a poetic, eye-for-eye correspondence with the flavor of our rejection of God?
6. What picture of humanity do these verses present?
7. What makes these verses frightening to you?
8. How do these verses relate to the gospel, and the good news of Jesus?

KINGDOM IMPACT - MULTIPLY

1. What would it look like for you, together with your group, to **Pray, Think, and Act**, in the areas below: *(start with Pray!)*
 - a. **Reach** – That God would use you to lead 1 person to faith in Christ;
 - b. **Belong** – to multiply opportunities for others to be brought into community
 - c. **Serve** – to begin serving, invite others into serving, or multiplying serving efforts by meeting needs or blessing neighbors or ministry partners together as a group
 - d. **Gather** – to multiply the church as a whole (planting, revitalization, helping other churches)

Additional Idolatry-related questions from Brad's sermon notes:

- Where are you tempted to replace God?
- Where are you tempted to live as though God does not exist?
- Who is God?
 - Does your definition line up with the one true living God as he has revealed himself in the Bible?
- This God you worship – do you exist to glorify him – or does he exist to glorify you?
- If you could change one thing about God, what would it be? Why? Why would that change make him cease to be the one God of the Bible?
- Fresh out of our James series – do you hold your calendar or wallet more tightly than your Bible? What takes priority on the family calendar? What takes priority in your life as evidenced by your most recent bank or credit card statement?
- What, in this life, are you so dependent on, that you couldn't imagine living without it?
- What, for you, would you say – I'm not really happy now, but if I just had THIS.. then, then, I'd be happy..?
- The God you worship – does he ever disagree with you? Or does he only affirm you?
- When you read your Bible, are there verses, or sections you disagree with, or ignore, or try to reinterpret to your own liking?
- What about your affections, your emotions? What thrills your heart? On the other end – what grieves and saddens your heart? What triggers those emotions for you? Is it the same things that thrill God's heart? Is it the same things that grieve God's heart?