

## ROMANS NEVER ENDS | DEVOTIONAL | WEEK 3

### Day 1 and Day 2

The story of Paul, previously known as Saul, has always been fascinating. Here is the story of a man so zealous for his Jewish faith that when a group of people began proclaiming Jesus, his anger burned red hot! He made it his mission to destroy, tear apart, and even approve the murder of these so-called Christians. (Acts 7:58-8:3)

Paul was on the Damascus road, driven by certainty and purpose, sure of the direction he was headed. His feet marched to the rhythm of his convictions, yet his heart was blind to the truth. Then came the light—a divine interruption that halted him in his tracks. In that moment, Jesus didn't just stop Paul's journey; He reoriented it. What Paul thought was his mission ended up being a collision with grace. (Acts 9:1-2)

This profound moment stopped Paul dead in his tracks and transformed the entire direction, mission, and belief system of his life. Paul's story is one of the most transformative life experiences noted in the Bible. He shifted from a persecutor of Christians to an apostle and preacher of the gospel, enduring prison, torture, and persecution—all to share how Jesus had changed his life.

Isn't that our story too? We walk our own roads—some paved with ambition or greed, others with pain, doubt, partying, or sickness. Then Jesus meets us there—in the middle of our plans, the blur of our busyness, or the quiet of our brokenness. Like Paul, we may not see it coming!

Paul's road was literal; ours may be metaphorical. Some encounter Jesus in a moment of crisis; others experience the slow dawning of truth over years. No two roads are the same, but every road Jesus enters becomes holy ground.

One testimony shared by a friend is how he heard the voice of God at a pivotal moment in his life. With his marriage and family struggling, he heard God at church say, "Get up and get baptized!" His wife later testified that the pastor had not said those words aloud—it was his very own "Road to Damascus" moment. We've seen lives be interrupted and set free from addiction and disease instantly. And we've seen transformation take place over decades.

Whatever your story, as Paul was blinded, we too may experience disorientation. Jesus interrupts not to harm us but to peel away the scales of self-reliance, pride, or fear. His interruptions feel like detours but are actually the shortest path to purpose.

The road doesn't end when Jesus interrupts. Like Paul, we rise, changed. The same feet that once walked toward destruction now tread the path of grace. The road stretches before us, still uncertain, but now guided by the light of Christ.

Paul's transformation reminds us that no road is too far gone for Jesus to enter, no heart too hardened for Him to soften, no life too broken for Him to redeem. His interruption is not the end of our journey—it's the beginning of one we were made for.

### Reflection Questions:

1. Where have you seen God step in to intervene and “interrupt” your life?
2. What part of your life do you see God continuing to mold, shape, or transform?

### Read Romans Chapter 5

1. What does it mean to be “justified by faith”? Why is this significant for your relationship with God?
2. How does the “peace with God” described in this verse differ from worldly ideas of peace?
3. What does it mean to you to be at peace with God in your daily life?
4. What does it mean to “stand in grace”? How does faith enable this?
5. Why do believers “rejoice in the hope of the glory of God”? How does this hope impact both your future and your present? (See Romans 8:8, 2 Corinthians 3:18)
6. How can the assurance of God’s glory impact the way you view your current circumstances?
7. Why does Paul say we can “rejoice in our sufferings”? How does this perspective challenge our modern world?
8. What does “suffering produces endurance” mean? Can you think of an example in your life where suffering led to greater strength or growth?

### Personal Reflection:

Scripture says we can joyfully look forward to sharing in God’s glory. Because of this hope, we are able to endure current trials and struggles. Get honest with yourself—how does this hope sustain you or change the way you approach your goals, relationships, and struggles? Are there areas of your life where you struggle to focus on God’s glory?

### Application:

In the midst of hard things, how can you reframe your suffering to have hope for the future? How does this change your response to struggles?

### Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the peace I have with You through Jesus Christ. Help me to stand firm in Your grace and to rejoice in the hope of Your glory. When I face trials, remind me that You are using them to strengthen me and deepen my hope in You.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## Day 3 and Day 4

In Romans 5, Paul paints a picture of the hope we have in Jesus. This hope isn't just wishful thinking; it's a confident expectation rooted in God's unchanging character. Paul reminds us that while we were powerless, ungodly, sinners, and enemies of God, Christ died for us. This truth changes everything about how we see ourselves and our relationship with God.

Imagine someone willingly taking the punishment for a crime they didn't commit—one you committed instead. Even more, imagine this person choosing to do so out of love, not obligation. That's what Jesus did for us.

God's love is demonstrated through action, not just words. Jesus didn't wait for us to clean ourselves up or prove ourselves worthy. He died for us at our worst. (Romans 5:8)

This love changes everything. It changes how we see God, ourselves, and others. It gives us hope, not only for the future but also for the present.

### Reflection Questions:

1. How does knowing Christ died for you while you were still a sinner impact your view of God's love?
2. What does it mean to you that God's love is unconditional?
3. How can you live in a way that reflects the love of God to others?

### Read Romans Chapter 6

1. Paul begins by addressing a question: If grace covers sin, should we keep sinning to experience more grace? What is his answer, and why is it significant?
2. What does it mean to be "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus"? How does this affect your daily choices?
3. Paul uses the imagery of baptism to describe dying to sin and being raised to new life in Christ. How does this imagery resonate with you?
4. What does it mean to no longer let sin reign in your mortal body? How can you actively live out this truth?

### Personal Reflection:

As believers, we are no longer slaves to sin. This doesn't mean we never sin, but sin no longer has the final say in our lives. Where in your life do you feel sin trying to regain control? How can you surrender this area to God?

**Application:**

Consider one practical step you can take this week to “present yourself to God as an instrument for righteousness” (Romans 6:13).

**Prayer:**

Dear Lord,

Thank You for the gift of new life in Christ. Help me to walk in the freedom You’ve given me, no longer a slave to sin but alive to righteousness. Give me the strength to resist temptation and live a life that honors You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## **Day 5**

Romans 8:28 says, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”

This verse is often quoted but sometimes misunderstood. It doesn’t promise that everything in life will be good, but it assures us that God can bring good out of every situation for those who trust Him.

Think about a tapestry. The front displays a beautiful design, but the back is often a mess of tangled threads. Our lives can feel like the back of the tapestry—chaotic and messy. But God is weaving a masterpiece.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. What situations in your life have felt messy or painful, but in hindsight, you see how God used them for good?
2. How does trusting in God’s purpose change the way you handle challenges?

**Application:**

This week, take time to thank God for how He’s worked in your life, even through difficult seasons. Write down one way you can trust Him more with a current challenge.

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for working all things together for good in my life. Help me to trust Your plan, even when I don’t understand it. Remind me that You are faithful and that Your purpose is greater than my circumstances. In Jesus’ name, Amen.