

The Romans Backbone

Instructor: Philip Tsao

Time: Tuesdays 7:00-8:00 PM ET

Class Size: Limit of 30

Paul wrote to the Romans with a desire that he could, in his words, “make you strong” (Rom 1:11 NIV). What he wrote to them is today often referred to as a clear presentation of the Christian gospel. Every follower of Jesus needs to have a backbone—a foundation that can uphold us through the highs and lows of the Christian life. We begin to develop one by knowing the truths of how we are justified, how we can walk with Christ, where we find the power to do so, and where this all leads us. The goal of this class is that by understanding and experiencing these fundamental truths, we will be made strong.

Syllabus (week by week):

1. Introduction: Why You Need a Romans Backbone (Romans 1:1-17)
2. The Bleak Background: The Depravity of Mankind (1:18-3:20)
3. The Beginning: Justification by Faith Alone (3:21-5:21)
4. The Walk: Knowing, Considering, Presenting, and Obeying (6:1-18)
5. The Walk: Sanctification, Fruitfulness, and Eternal Life (6:19-7:25)
6. The Way: The Spirit with our spirit (8:1-27)
7. The Goal: The Body of Christ, the Most Wonderful Expression of Christ (12)
8. The Means: The Local Church (14-15)
9. Group Project Presentations

Homework: This class requires about 30 minutes of homework per week outside of class time.

Course Material: None