

# FORGIVEN & FREE



*from Romans, a letter in the Bible*

**Through this series** we'll be working our way through the Biblical letter of Romans. We'll explore themes of forgiveness, freedom, hope and grace.

## **Listen again and Worksheets**

On the series web page  
[www.kingsnorwich.com/forgiven](http://www.kingsnorwich.com/forgiven)

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**Title:** Romans 1

**Date:** 24th April 2023

**Speaker:** Steve

**Site:** City West

**Bible reference:** Romans 1

## Overview

The letter was written by Apostle Paul to house churches in Rome to help them. House churches made up of men and women, Jews & non-Jews, Slaves and masters. The Jews had been kicked out of Rome, but then later allowed to return, but what they returned to was a church that had become very non-Jewish. So on one hand Jewish Christians, and on the other non-Jewish (gentile) Christians and so there was division. Paul wanted the churches to be unified, he didn't want them to splinter into divisions and become suspicious of each other and the main point of the letter is to show that we are united through the gospel, and in our need for the gospel.

## A Letter to Help Us

- This letter, although it has some difficult things to hear, is designed to help us. Much like a visit to the doctor is helpful if they tell you about something that needs addressing (as opposed to telling you everything is fine when it is not)
- In vs 18-20 Paul refers to God's creation; God's intended plan for humankind and the world. In vs 21-22 he writes about sin entered the world and the truth was exchanged for a lie, and lastly in v24 he writes of judgement; how the Lord allows the result of sin and its consequences.

## An Example of a Bigger Problem

- Paul in vs 26-32 talks among other things about sex, but he is using sex as an example of a much bigger problem (we know that as he goes on to list lots of other things like gossip etc). No one is off the hook here.
- The point is that we have all exchanged the truth of a lie. We all seek satisfaction in other things other than the Lord, and when we do we make them idols and it leaves us disappointed and hurt.
- Where are we seeking our satisfaction?

## We are all in the Same Boat

- Jew, gentile, male, female, we are all in that same boat NONE us can save ourselves, none of us are any more or less loved by Jesus.
- We are in the same boat, it is sinking, we cannot save ourselves and we need a saviour

**LIFE Groups: Learning, Integration, Friendship, Everyone a witness**