MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK:
Romans 10:17 *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."*

ONE CHAPTER A DAY
Read through the New Testament in a year!
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MY NOTES

My Insights / My Questions

MONDAY, MARCH 14

Read Romans 10

1. The Jews were "seeking to establish their own" (righteousness). Why did that not work? (v3) Why is it so hard for us humans to submit?
2. What does it take for a lost sinner to be saved (v9)? The Roman congregation was comprised of both Gentiles and Jews. Did all the Jews believe in resurrection? Did the Gentiles? How many of your friends do?
3. This week's bible verse is well known. What exactly does "hearing through the word of Christ" mean? Can you think of an example in your life where "faith came through hearing?"

- **Prayer:** ***God, please forgive my pride. Help me understand how that separates me from Your righteousness.***

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Read Romans 11

1. Under God's law, we are all judged guilty of rebellion against God. But God has kept a "remnant" (v4, see also 1 Kings 19:18) through grace alone (6). What good works can earn us salvation? Should we sin greatly so that grace may abound? (See Romans 6:1) Where is the heart of someone who proposes this philosophy?
2. Paul compares people to an olive tree (v17-24). Wild olive trees near a cultivated tree are a problem. The farmer would destroy them if possible. Yet, what does God do with us, the wild olive trees (Gentiles)? How do Jews fit in (24)? How do you feel about the level of intimacy that God wants to have with us to graft us into His body? Can our sin contaminate His tree?
3. To me, verse 36(a doxology) is the capstone of this section of Romans. (See also John 1-5). Personal note: I am currently doing a kitchen renovation. I have the lights, the wiring, the switches - all the necessary pieces but I still need one thing to make it work. What is it? This verse of praise acknowledges Jesus as the "electricity" in our lives. Agree or disagree?

- **Prayer:** ***Lord, let my daily time spent with You recharge me and empower me to live my life in faithful obedience to Your Word and will.***

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Read Romans 12

1. Paul exhorts us to present our bodies as "a living and holy sacrifice" (1). How does that impact your day to day, moment to moment decisions? What are some ways we can offer more pleasing sacrifices with our lives?
2. Verses 3 - 21 offers great advice for living the Christian walk. Which action or attribute is one of your gifts? Which one(s) do you struggle with?
3. How does verse 18 apply today?

- **Prayer:** ***Jesus, please give me Your heart that I might truly desire to follow the path Paul describes in Romans 12, especially as I struggle with …….***

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Read Romans 13

1. In verses 1-4, we are enjoined to be "in subjection" to the governing authorities. Is this always true? In what cases can you "object" to the laws and governing authority and still be in God's will. How do you feel about Conscientious Objectors? How is the Pro-life movement navigating this topic?
2. TAXES (v6-7). Paul instructs us to pay taxes. So tax evasion is not only illegal but a sin. What did Jesus say about taxes? (Matt 22:15-22). Where does Jesus place our vision?
3. "Owe no one anything, except to love each other." (v8) Is this only on a spiritual level or does Paul mean this on a financial level? How can debt be a hindrance to Christians? What about buying a house - can a couple purchase a house today without a mortgage? If so, how? Should we borrow (or loan) from family members?

- **Prayer:** ***Lord, let me keep Your perspective on things of this world, including the government, taxes and loans.***

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Read Romans 14

1. Paul encourages us to support each other and not to be judgmental (v10-12). We have to give account of ourselves to God; we are not responsible for others. Yet we are called to love our neighbors. How do we love others and offer them spiritual counsel when they are living a self-destructive life? Can you think of a neighbor? A friend? A family member?
2. Paul addresses Christian liberty in 14:14 regarding food offered to idols. Some Christians felt it was okay to eat meat offered to idols, other felt it was wrong. Since God does not clearly indicate a prohibition against the eating of the meat, it becomes a matter of conscience. If someone believes it is wrong for them to eat it, it is wrong. Other believers should support their belief. Does this apply to dancing? Drinking alcoholic beverages? Modest clothing?

- **Prayer:** ***God, let me be wise and loving when it comes to matters of Christian conscience and may I always love, support and build up my fellow believers even when we have disagreement based on Christian liberty.***

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Read Romans 15

1. In verse 6, Paul exhorts us believers that we "may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Think about worship services where you felt and knew the Spirit was moving among your fellow believers in a combined, unified voice of praise. Where was your focus? How did you feel about God? How did you feel about your co-worshippers? Did you ever worship in a foreign land where you did not understand the language but had the same experience? How big is the Body of Christ?
2. Paul shares the early commitment that God has made to the Gentiles (Deut 32:43, Ps 117:1, Is 11:10). How did the Roman Gentiles, worshipping with Roman Jews, probably react to this part of the letter? How do you feel about God's commitment to us modern day Gentiles? After reading Romans, what have you learned about the communion of Jews and Gentiles?
3. On a historical note, Paul mentions going to Spain (v24, 28). Is there a record of his travels to Spain? Was he later arrested again and sent to Rome for his trial and execution? Did Paul ever visit the congregation at Rome?

- **Prayer:** ***Thank you, Lord, for calling me to be one of Your people, lifting my voice in prayer and praise with my fellow believers.***