

# "The Power of the Gospel"

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

Romans 1:16 (KJV)



## Introduction

Consider God's will for your life. What aspects of your life keep you from following God's will? What can you do to remove the road blocks to following God's will? The Bible tells us not to be ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Keep this in mind as you ponder your options with regard to following God's call on your life.

## Today's Lesson Objectives

- **Discern** the power of God as illustrated in Paul's faith
- **Affirm** the power of God's salvation in family and friends
- **Pray** for the salvation of the world, believing it is possible

## Scripture

Romans 1:8-17 (KJV)

Devotional Reading:

Psalms 71:1-6, 17-24

## About Today's Lesson...

The Gospel or the "good news" regarding salvation through Jesus Christ is a powerful, transformative force that obligates believers to expose the kingdom of God to others. As a body of believers, we, like the Apostle Paul, should not be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for the Gospel *is* the power of God unto salvation. And salvation, as a gift of God's grace, moves us from a place of sin to a place of holiness. Salvation saves us from the penalty of sin, delivers us from the power of sin, and removes us from the presence of sin.

In this lesson, the Apostle Paul wrote to Christians in Rome after his third missionary journey. He was eager to make his first trip to Rome and sought to introduce himself and his message prior to his arrival. Within this epistle to the church in Rome, Paul strongly exhibited his faith in God and his obligation to preach the Gospel to everyone - "...to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise". Indeed, Paul was not ashamed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul knew first-hand about the power of the Gospel and that it fully expressed the righteousness of God.

The Apostle Paul makes it very clear that the Gospel is for everyone. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) implores us to reach out to all nations. However, some people today advocate for a new evangelism. They say that today's Gospel message is out of touch with current urban problems - that it's a "White folk's Gospel". Given Paul's evangelistic view, how might you respond to the call for a new evangelism?

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