



❧ Week 1 ❧

This weeks focus scripture: Romans 5:12-21

This weeks reading challenge:

- Read all of Romans 5
- Read the focus scripture, 5:12-21, several times.

This weeks memory challenge: Romans 5:17

❧ Study and Reflection ❧

Day 1: This weeks passage compares and constrasts what Adam did (through the original sin of Genesis 3), and it's effect on the human race, with what Jesus did (through his death and resurrection), and His effect on the human race. Considering this big concept, a few questions:

- Read verse 12. Paul teaches that all of humanity came under the consequence of sin because of Adam's action. Does this bring up for you issues of fairness and justice? How do you respond to this truth, and why is it important?

- Can you think of a situation in your own life, or someone you know, where *heredity* or a multi-generational issue caused pain and suffering? If so, what do you think is the best way to respond to such a situation? Even if it seems unfair, is it best to deny the situation, or deal with reality as it is?

- Based on your understanding of the doctrine of "The Fall", from Genesis chapter three, describe what happened to Adam and Eve that is passed down to humanity as the spiritual ancestors of Adam and Eve, AND how do we see these characteristics played out in the reality of life today?

Day 2: Read verses 13-14. Consider the following:

- What does Paul mean by “Sin isn’t charged against your account when there is no law?” What ‘law’ does this entire section refer to? (Hint... something in verse 14 points to this.)
- Even given the above, Paul states that “sin was in the world” before there was a law to define what sin even was. How do you describe this? Can you think of an example where sin, and consequences of sin, are in effect even if people don’t recognize their actions as sinful?
- Finally, Paul uses the very important term “death reigned.” What does he mean by this? What is the difference here between ‘sin’, and ‘death?’ Look for the other instances of this phrase in the chapter to help. Can you think of a historical or current example of ‘death reigning’ in human society?

Day 3: Read verses 15-21. In the chart below, list the effects of Adams sin, and the effects of Christ’s gift. Consider how we see these ‘worked out’ in the lives of unbelievers and followers of Christ. As followers of Jesus, do we still see traits of the ‘line of Adam’ at work in our lives? If so, what does this tell us, and how do we respond?

IN ADAM Result of the trespass		IN CHRIST Result of the Gift
	H O W M U C H M O R E	