# Game Changers

***Sometimes the Smallest Words Leave the Biggest Impact***

## Weekly Title: The Life-Changing 'All' of Romans

**Date: October 18, 2026**

**Text: Romans 3:23; 1:16; 8:1,28,37**

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## BIG IDEA

"All means all and that's all all means!" –unknown

It is such a simple word that holds so much power and hope for us in Scripture. Throughout the book of Romans we see the word "all" several times. We read about our condemnation, that we are all sinners and have all fallen short of God's glory… but we also read the all in " it [the gospel] holds the power to bring salvation to all who believe. We see this word in "all things work together for good" and "in all these things we are more than conquerors." Over and over, all speaks truth and power to us that even our own shame cannot talk us out of! Does this "all" really apply to someone like me?

All means ALL and that's all all means!

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### *Conversation Starter*

- How does the word "all" in these verses bring you comfort?

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## COMMENTARY #1

**(Romans 3:23)** This verse sits at the peak of Paul's argument that both Jews and Gentiles stand equally guilty before God and equally in need of His grace. When Paul writes, *"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"* he uses the word *all* to emphasize the universal reality of human sin. No one is exempt, and no amount of religious heritage, moral effort, or personal achievement can overcome the separation that sin creates between humanity and God. The phrase *"fall short of the glory of God"* points not only to sinful actions but to humanity's failure to reflect the character and purpose for which we were created as God's image-bearers. Rather than singling out certain people as more deserving of judgment than others, Paul levels the playing field, revealing that every person shares the same need for God's saving grace. Don't worry though, our stories don't end here!

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### *Discussion Questions*

1. What does it mean that "all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory?"
2. Why is it important to know that all humans have sinned?
3. Does this mean that humans are innately bad?

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## COMMENTARY #2

**(Romans 1:16)** Here we see how Paul could write the above verse without feeling hopeless or lost; Romans 1:16 is the foundation of his writings in Romans. He declares, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes,"* Paul boldly affirms that the message of Jesus

is the very power of God at work in the world. In a culture that valued status, strength, and human achievement, the gospel of a crucified Messiah seemed foolish to many, yet Paul refused to be embarrassed by it because he had experienced its transforming power firsthand. THIS is the power that had freed him from the condemnation of sin and death! The phrase *"everyone who believes"* (all who believe in many translations) shows the scope of God's saving work, extending to *all* people. This verse introduces one of Romans' central themes: salvation is not earned through human effort but received through faith, and the gospel remains God's means of bringing redemption and new life to all who trust in Christ. Simply put, all have sinner, but all can be saved too.

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### *Discussion Questions*

1. How does this all feel different from the first one we studied?
2. Does your shame or thoughts ever try to tell you that this all isn't for you?
3. How does this all comfort you?

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## COMMENTARY #3

**(8:1,28,37)** As we continue reading Romans, we see that the promise of "all" doesn't stop at salvation. No, it continues to speak life, power, and freedom to us! There are incredible gifts of salvation for those who are in Christ. Because of Jesus, there is now no condemnation for *all* believers (v. 1), freeing them from the guilt and judgment of sin. Even in the midst of life's challenges and suffering, God is actively working *all* things together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose (v. 28). And because God's love is

secure and His purposes cannot be defeated, believers are more than conquerors in *all* things through Christ (v. 37). Together, these verses remind us that salvation is more than forgiveness of sins. It is the assurance of God's acceptance, His ongoing work in our lives, and the victory we have through His unshakable love.

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### ***Discussion Questions***

1. Do you feel free from condemnation? Explain. How can we walk free from this?
2. How can all things work for good even when we still experience pain, suffering, and hardships?
3. What does it mean that salvation is more than forgiveness of sins?

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Devotion on this Passage- StudyBible.Org

Reading of Passage– John Piper

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## Activity

Read Romans 8 out loud over yourself every day this week. Write down what sticks out to you, what you remember, what you hear maybe for the first time. Come back next week ready to discuss what this practice did for you.

# FAMILY CURRICULUM
# GAME CHANGERS:The Life-Changing ALL of Romans
# Romans 3:23, 1:16, 8:1, 28, 37

## BIG IDEA

Last week, we looked at the little word, *if*. This week, we're going to look at the little word, *all*. Not *some*, not *a few*, not *most*, but *all.* We will look at verses in Romans where the word all is important.

The apostle Paul is the author of Romans. In Romans 3:23-24, we learn that *all* have sinned and *all believers* are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came through Christ Jesus. Later in Romans 8, we learn that there is no condemnation to *all* who are in Christ, that in *all* things God works for the good of those that love him, and that in *all* these things we are more than conquerors.

## MEMORY VERSES

**23** for *all* have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** and *all* are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ~Romans 3:23-24

**28** And we know that in *all* things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ~Romans 8:28

**37** No, in *all* these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ~Romans 8:37

## LESSON/ACTIVITY

For this week's lesson, we will discuss what we read in these verses and "hash out" some of their meanings.

In Romans 3:23-24, Paul states that *all* have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But the good news is in verse 24 - *all* are justified freely by God's grace through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Here, Paul is stating that we are made righteous in Christ by his grace (a gift) through our faith (our belief). Paul is talking to *all* believers.
In Romans 8:28, we learn that in *all* things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Does that mean that only "good" things will happen to believers? No. We will encounter hard times and difficulties; however the good news is that God works in all situations of our lives (even the tough ones) for our good.

Finally, in Romans 8:37, we learn that "in *all* these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." What does "more than conquerors mean? It means that God is for us and no matter our situations, He is working on our behalf. In fact, Romans 8:31 says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" And Romans 8:38-39 say, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## SONGS

*"All in All"* and *"All Things for Good"*

## PRAYER

Dear Lord, You are our greatest teacher, coach, and friend. We know that you are with us in *all* situations and are working *all* things for good. Help us to remember that even in difficult times, you are with us and will never leave us. You have already won the battle! You are our all in all! Amen/

## CHALLENGE

If you have difficult times this week, remember that God is working for you! Go to God and ask for help. He is always working for us! If you have a

friend or family member that is struggling, say a prayer for them or with them.