

PARTNERS IN THE
GOSPEL

STUDIES FOR BPC PARTNERSHIP SUNDAYS

During the first three Sundays of Term 3 we'll be hearing from some of BPC's Gospel partners. This set of companion studies uses three different styles of Bible reading method (ie COMA, Swedish and Manuscript) to study the three Bible passages that our partners will be covering. These methods can be useful tools to use both in a group context but also for our personal Bible reading.

Each study will also give us opportunity to have a time of focussed prayer for our Gospel Partners.

As with any study, you'll get the most out of them if you're able to read the relevant passage and answer the questions before your group meets. That will also equip you to best encourage the others in your group with what you say. However, if some weeks you don't get to prepare, please don't use that as an excuse to not go along. Just being there is a great way of showing the group that they're important to you. Plus, the studies are designed to be useful even if you're thinking about them for the first time at your group.

Matthew 15:21-28

In this study we'll be using a Bible reading method known as COMA ie Context, Observation, Meaning and Application

Read Matthew 15:21-28

CONTEXT

What comes before and after the passage? How does Matthew 15:21-28 fit into the bigger story or logic of Matthew's gospel?

OBSERVATION

What particular things do you notice in the passage? Are there any repeated words or ideas? Are there any confusing or surprising things? What do you think is the main point?

MEANING

How would you sum up the passage in a single sentence? What does it teach us about Jesus, God, and ourselves?

APPLICATION

How does the passage challenge your understanding? Is there an attitude you need to change? Is there an action you need to start or stop doing?

Prayer time

Take time to pray for the truths about Jesus you've discovered in the passage.

Spend time praying for Andrew Sennett and the ministry of AFES, especially here at the Bathurst CSU campus.

Acts 19:8-20

In this study we'll be using a Bible reading method known as the Swedish Method.

Read Acts 19:8-20



Write down something that "shines" from the passage ie something which impacts you or gets your attention



Write down anything which is difficult to understand, or a question you have about the text.



Write down a personal application for your life.



Write down prayer points from the passage.

Prayer time

Take time to pray using the above prayer points from the passage.

Spend time praying for the Puffett's sharing Jesus in France.

Romans 1:1-17

In this study we'll be using a Bible reading technique known as Manuscript Discovery. On the following page is a reprint of Romans 1:1-17 (NIV) but with verse numbers and paragraph breaks removed.

Read through the printed passage several times

- 1) Use different coloured pencils to circle any recurring ideas or words.
- 2) Draw arrows to highlight the connections and logical flow of the passage.
- 3) Put a question mark next to any sentences which confuse you.
- 4) Mark the spots where you think a new paragraph should appear. Tip: "You should start a new paragraph when you begin a new idea or point." (purdue.edu)
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- 5) Try to write a sentence summary for each of your paragraphs.

- 6) Now try to write a sentence summary for the passage.

Prayer time

Take time to pray for the truths about Jesus you've discovered in the passage.

Also spend time praying for Tim Abbey's ministry as chaplain at Kirkconnel Correctional Centre.

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you. I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles. I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."