
Calvary Church: Coordinated Curriculum 2007-2009

Romans: The Transforming Power of the Righteousness of God

The material that follows is designed to help you understand the purpose, structure and direction of the Coordinated Curriculum for 2007-2008.

Calvary Church Strategic Plan

Every 3-5 years the Elders, Deacons and Ministry Staff of Calvary Church conduct a thorough self analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of Calvary. Through this evaluation process a strategic plan is developed to focus attention on key areas needing development.

The last strategic plan identified six key areas: transitioning leadership, comprehensive bible study, staffing vital ministries, positioning for outreach, adapting to physical growth, add to our missions legacy.

This curriculum is an outworking of the desire to insure that we have **Comprehensive Bible Study:**

Vision: We want to be faithful to Scripture and multiplying disciples. We want to be a center for the faithful study, teaching and preaching of the Word of God, providing opportunity for each individual to be discipled from spiritual birth through spiritual reproduction, with each one loving the Lord and His Word.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive, systematic approach to the study of the whole Bible for all age groups that will be relevant to daily life, resulting in the deepening of the spiritual life, growth in grace, and an expectation of accountability.

This focus has yielded the development of new curriculum for all ages including our ABF ministry.

Coordinated Curriculum Plan

Context

Mission

Calvary Church exists to bring glory to God through the growing of a biblical spiritual family of fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ who make disciples among the nations.

Vision

Founded on the Word, Focused on the world

Equipping people to:

Drink deeply of Christ and Flow to others from
Neighborhoods to Nations

Values

God will be most glorified through Calvary Church by G.R.O.W.T.H. . .

Depth with G od	Focus on glory of God in dynamic worship
R eal Community	People are the focus not programs
Ministry O wnership	Participation in ministry is the norm
W orld Vision	Reaching the least reached
T horoughly Biblical	Equipping people to think and act biblically
Local H arvest	Impacting our community

Curriculum Outcomes

Our goal is to develop fully devoted followers of Christ—disciples who know and apply the Word of God consistently and faithfully in all areas of life.

This requires faithful biblical teaching and relational connections.

Our curriculum must be designed to provide a foundation (Biblical/Theological/Practical) on which a framework of additional truths can be built—the foundation and truths then don't simply inform our world-view, they *form it*. Our theology is not simply informed by the Word, but is *formed by it*. And once our theology and world-view are formed by Scripture—they must be lived with integrity (wholeness).

To that end, the follow explains the driving forces behind our curriculum at Calvary Church.

Focus

God's glory among the nations

The focus of our curriculum is the aim of our mission—to bring glory to God.

Therefore our curriculum content, teacher training and teaching methodology will seek to purposefully teach individuals to glorify God.

Therefore the content of the curriculum is the means, not the end.

Foundations

Knowing God and His Word personally

The foundational elements of our curriculum are a personal relationship with God (salvation) which is developed through a growing knowledge of Him by means of His Word.

Therefore our curriculum content, teacher training and teaching methodology will seek to help individuals understand the Bible's authenticity, reliability and authority in all areas of life. That it is the primary means by which we can grow in our intimate understanding and passionate love for God and learn how to better respond to Him and His will in the context of community with other believers.

Therefore, the content of the curriculum is the means, not the end.

Fundamental Goals (Core competencies: Know, Be, Do)

The fundamental goals or core competencies of our curriculum aim at transforming the whole person—mind, heart and hands.

Know

Fluency with God's Word in Life Situation

An understanding of essential core beliefs (theology) and their impact on daily life, not just information but a heart knowledge of God's Word that produces a fluency with God's Word in life situation.

Therefore our curriculum content, teacher training and teaching methodology will seek to equip individuals with a meaningful, practical and usable knowledge of the whole of Scripture—equipping individuals to study God's Word for themselves and in community, with the hope of creating a thirst for God.

Be

Heart motivated Love for God and Others

Our goal is God centered, Spirit directed lives lived with integrity and purity clothed in humility created by the grace received and therefore freely given.

Therefore our curriculum content, teacher training and teaching methodology will seek to challenge heart change not simply behavioral change resulting in authentic living within community for the sake of others therefore loving God and others with all that we are.

Do

Impacting and Influencing others toward Christ

As we develop a biblical world view which produces intentional thinking and proactive living we seek to impact others believers and influence unbelievers towards Christ.

Therefore our curriculum content, teacher training and teaching methodology will seek to challenge individuals towards eager service, intentional reproduction, global perspective, relational priorities, and faith driven living.

Therefore, the content of the curriculum is the means, not the end.

Adult Bible Fellowship Coordinated Curriculum

Since a coordinated curriculum for ABFs has not been in use for many years, since our individual ABFs each are unique, and since we desire our curriculum to expository, the decision was made to start our coordinated curriculum with the study of the book of Romans.

Romans was chosen for a number of reasons:

1. to allow us to review and teach the basic truths of our relationship with God
2. to allow us to review and teach many basic doctrines
3. to allow us to teach inductive Bible study
4. to help us show that God's program for the nations is evident throughout Scripture, not just in the Great commission

Materials

With the creation of new curriculum not only for adult but also for children we are making the switch in our preferred Bible translation to *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*. (© 2001 Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers.) See

Materials provided for the student:

Available at our website <http://www.calvarychurch.org/264487.ihtml>

Personal Bible Study materials that can be used to prepare for each lesson

Class notes (generic handouts available on the website, but most teachers will modify them for distribution in class)

Devotional Guide <http://devotional.calvarychurch.org/>

Overview of Romans Curriculum

The book of Romans can be divided in five sections within three units. Before each unit there will be several overview lessons to ensure students see the big picture. After each section there will be topical interludes to extend the learning.

Inductive

The Romans curriculum is designed to be studied and taught from an inductive approach. Our desire is to equip people with the ability to be self-feeders. That is, we want all regular attendees at Calvary Church to know how to study the Bible for themselves.

PBS handouts

The students will have available to them worksheets to begin the process of inductive Bible study prior to attending class. The hope is that many class members will get involved in the study and add to the interaction.

Interactive

Engage

Our goal is not to communicate content, but to allow the Word of God used by the Spirit of God in the context of the church of God to transform individuals.

For the greatest transformation to occur, students must be engaged.

Intentional

Main point

It will be impossible to teach every truth, every principle, and every doctrine in the book of Romans. We will seek to point people to the main point. Our goal is not to communicate all that we can, but to communicate what we should. To help people grasp the truth with their minds allowing the truth to transform and mold them to the glory of God.

May we truly understand and live the transforming power of the righteousness of God.

Appendix: Inductive Bible Study

Read Read, Record, Reflect, Respond	
Prayerfully	Conscious dependence
Reflectively	Constantly
Extensively	Background issues Big Idea Basic structure and flow Broad strokes
Creatively	Imagination and View points
Intensively	Questions: Who, What, Where, When, Why, How. . .
	Repeated A like D ifferent A ccentuated R elated
Specifically	Purposefully—with the view of the author in mind
Effectively	By unit of thought— Think Context! Details, ask questions
Observation	
<input type="checkbox"/> What does it say?	
Probe Discover Detect Explore	Mark —people, place, key word List —observations Summarize —main point Identify —what you learn about God Apply —begin asking “So what?”
Analyze <i>Interpretation</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> What does it mean?	
Content	Observe—ask questions
Context	Context Rules!
Comparison	Scripture clarifies Scripture
Culture	Bridge the gap Time—When? Space—Where? Customs—How?
Consultation	Last step
<input type="checkbox"/> Correlation: How does it fit other Scripture?	
Do <i>Application</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> How does it affect my life?	
<input type="checkbox"/> How should I respond?	
SPECS	
S in to be forsaken?	
P romises to be claimed?	
E xamples to be followed?	
C ommands to be obeyed?	
S tumbling block/hindrane to be avoided?	
Share	
<input type="checkbox"/> How can I share it?	