

A few points and questions to consider:

Romans 12 moves us into the practical portions of Paul's letter to the Romans. In short, he begins telling us how we – as redeemed followers of Christ – are to live our lives. And the life he describes should be organic: a natural outgrowth of the solid doctrinal and theological foundation Paul gave us in Romans 1-11. That foundation is more than facts that we recite; that foundation leads to a changed life just as it led to the Doxology of worship we saw in Romans 11:33-36.

We've been encouraging the use of **HEAR** reports since we started this study. **H**ighlighting and digging into a single verse (or possibly a short passage), **E**xplaining it in the context in which it was inspired, **A**pplying it to your life, and then **R**esponding to the verse – possibly in how you live, in a prayer to God, or a song of praise.

Using the outline that Pastor Brad and Kenny used in this study, select one verse from each of the three sections:

- (1) Romans 12:1-2, 21;
- (2) Romans 12:3-13; and
- (3) Romans 12:14-20

Then write a HEAR report on each. The HEAR outline is on the next page of this handout.

It's critical that our study through Romans has been and will be more than an intellectual exercise. This is a life-changing letter that should greatly impact each of us.

Scripture Reading for August 5 Bible Study: Romans 13

Once again, we encourage you to dig a little deeper into this passage by preparing a HEAR Report. As noted in previous weeks, HEAR is an acronym for Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond.

- Read thru this passage and HIGHLIGHT a verse(s) that you found especially powerful.
- EXPLAIN the verse. What was the context and purpose for what was written and when it was written.
- APPLY the verse to yourself
- Lastly, RESPOND to the verse. Maybe there are changes God wants you to make in your life w.r.t. the verse. Or your response may be a prayer to God. It may be praising Him. However you feel led to respond.

As has been pointed out by others, the goal isn't for you / me to jot down a "profound truth" but to note the "truth you found."

Please email us and let us know how this passage spoke to you. Also let us know if you have any general comments, suggestions, etc. for this midweek Bible study program. *We want and need to hear from you.* Email address: connect@madisonavenuebc.org

Name: _____

H.E.A.R. REPORT for _____ (Bible passage).

Highlight a verse(s)

Explain what the text means.

Possible questions to consider: *Why was this written? To whom was it originally written? How does it fit with the verses immediately before and after it? Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book? What is He intending to communicate through this text?*

Apply "the significance of these verses to you personally"

Possible questions to consider: *How can this help me? What does this mean to me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What does this mean to me? How does this apply to my family, my church family, my community? What is God saying to me?*

Respond

Matthew 7:7 (ESV), "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Source: Growing Up, Robby Gallaty