

# Pre Project Study







## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

**Dear Group Leader,**

Welcome to World Changers! As you prepare for your project, this pre-project study is designed to root your students in the Gospel and prepare them for Gospel conversations on project.

This year's study focuses exclusively on the Romans Road, guiding students through key passages in Romans that clearly explain the Gospel. Each session builds on the last, helping students understand their need for a Savior, the cost of sin, the gift of salvation through Jesus, and the call to respond in faith. When students are rooted in the Gospel, they are ready to share it.

The study includes three core teaching sessions, supported by a testimony workshop. A clear expectation this year is that students need to leave this study able to recall and communicate the Romans Road Scriptures from memory. Time and activities are intentionally built into each session to help leaders guide students toward Scripture memory and confidence in sharing.

### **How to use this study**

Hook – Capture attention and introduce the session theme

Book – Study Scripture and uncover the Gospel truth

Look – Apply the truth to everyday life

Took – Respond through obedience and Scripture memory

### **Session 1 – Our Need**

When we are rooted in the Gospel, we recognize our sin.

### **Session 2 – The Cost & the Gift**

When we are rooted in the Gospel, we understand the cost of sin and the gift of grace.

### **Session 3 – The Response**

When we are rooted in the Gospel, we respond in faith and share the hope we've received.

### **Session 4 – Testimony Workshop**

Connecting personal story to the Gospel message.

**Thank you for registering for World Changers.** Our desire is to serve you, as you make disciples for Christ. We hope this mission trip is life changing for your students and for you.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### Our Need

Romans 3:10-12,23 & Isaiah 64:6

#### **Hook:**

*Begin this session with the following game*

Game: The Comparison Line

Materials Needed: Slides Provided, large Space for students to move around

Setup: Clear a space in the room and designate one side as “Strongly Agree” and the other as “Strongly Disagree.”

The Game:

Read the following statements one at a time and have students move to the side that best represents their response:

- I usually compare myself to people who are worse than me.
- I think I’m a pretty good person.
- I try to do the right thing most of the time.
- I think God cares more about my intentions than my actions.

After each statement, briefly ask one or two volunteers why they chose their spot (no pressure to speak).

Connection:

Most of us decide if we’re a ‘good person’ by comparing ourselves to other people. And comparison usually feels safe, because we can almost always find someone we think we’re doing better than.

But comparison only works if other people are the standard. What happens when the standard changes?

The Bible tells us that God’s standard isn’t ‘better than others.’ God’s standard is perfection. That’s why understanding the Gospel has to start here—not with how we compare to people, but with how we compare to God. That’s exactly what Romans 3:23 explains. Let’s read it together.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### **Book:**

*Ask students to read the following passages out loud*

#### **Romans 3:23**

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

#### **Romans 3:10-12**

As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."

#### **Isaiah 64:6**

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

### Theological Truths:

#### **Sin is universal**

Scripture makes it clear that every person has sinned. No one is excluded, and no one is morally exempt from this truth.

#### **God's standard is perfection, not comparison**

Sin is not measured by how we compare ourselves to others, but by how we compare to God's perfect holiness.

#### **Falling short means failing to meet God's standard**

To fall short of the glory of God is more than making mistakes—it is being unable to meet God's righteous standard on our own.

#### **Our best efforts cannot remove our sin**

Even our righteous deeds are insufficient to make us right before God. Effort and good intentions cannot solve the problem of sin.

#### **Understanding our sin is the starting point of the Gospel**

Before grace can be understood or salvation can make sense, we must first recognize our need for a Savior.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### Look:

*As we look at our lives, where do we fit in?*

Romans 3:23 reminds us that everyone stands in the same place before God—we have all fallen short of His perfect standard. This truth keeps us grounded in our own need for the Gospel and shapes how we view others with humility and compassion.

This truth also helps us understand where Gospel conversations often need to begin. Many people define “good” in different ways and believe their own effort or morality will be enough to get them to heaven. Because of that, conversations about faith can easily stay vague or surface-level.

Loving someone well means gently guiding the conversation back to God’s truth. Asking questions like, “How do you decide what makes someone good?” or “Do you think anyone is truly perfect?” can help reveal the standard someone is using. From there, we can point back to Scripture and share what the Bible says about sin and God’s standard. Bringing the conversation to God’s Word is important, because truth does not come from our opinions, but from Scripture.

When we clearly share biblical truth, we give others the opportunity to understand their need for the Gospel and respond to it.

#### As a Christian

- Recognizing our sin keeps us humble and dependent on Christ.
- Remembering our need for the Gospel protects us from comparing ourselves to others.
- Being rooted in the Gospel helps us approach others with compassion, not judgment.
- Understanding sin clearly equips us to share the Gospel honestly and biblically.
- We are reminded that our hope is found in Christ alone,

#### As an Unbeliever

- Understanding sin helps reveal the need for a Savior.
- Being “good” by personal standards is not enough to meet God’s perfect standard.
- Romans 3:23 shows that everyone stands in need of grace.
- Recognizing the problem of sin prepares the heart to understand the Gospel.
- God’s truth invites us to respond, not with effort, but with faith.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### **Took:**

*How do these Bible passages and truths affect my everyday life?*

Understanding Romans 3:23 should change the way we talk about ourselves, others, and God. Instead of defending our behavior or measuring ourselves against people around us, we learn to honestly agree with God about our sin and our need for grace. This leads to humility, repentance, and a greater appreciation for what Jesus has done for us.

These truths also shape how we share the Gospel. When conversations focus only on being “good enough,” we are called to lovingly and clearly bring God’s standard into the discussion. This may mean asking thoughtful questions, slowing the conversation down, or courageously sharing what Scripture says—even when it feels uncomfortable. Faithfulness in sharing truth matters more than comfort or approval.

***Pray that God would help us agree with Him about our sin and trust Him to use His Word in our conversations.***

### **Scripture Memory**

Read Romans 3:23 aloud together as a group.

Say the verse phrase by phrase: “For all have sinned” “and fall short of the glory of God.”

Have students repeat the full verse together without looking. Encourage them to explain the verse in their own words and practice saying it until it can be recalled confidently from memory.

### **Discussion Questions**

- How does agreeing with God about our sin change the way we live each day?
- Why can it be uncomfortable to bring God’s standard into Gospel conversations?
- What are some ways we can lovingly shift conversations back to Scripture?
- How does Scripture help us speak with confidence rather than opinion?
- Why is faithfulness in sharing the truth more important than the outcome?
- What is one specific step you feel God is calling you to take in response to this lesson?



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### The Cost, The Gift, & The Cross

Romans 6:23, James 1:14-15, Isaiah 59:2, Romans 5:8

#### Hook:

*Begin this session with the following game*

Game: Mystery Bags

Materials Needed: 3–4 paper bags or small boxes with items hidden inside

Setup:

Before the session, place one item inside each bag. On the outside of the bag, write a description that sounds positive or appealing—but is not an outright lie.

Outside label: “Stylish Accessory”

Inside: A used sock

Outside label: “Something That Will Satisfy You”

Inside: An empty wrapper or empty container

Outside label: “Makes Life Easier”

Inside: A rock or heavy object

Outside label: “You Deserve This”

Inside: A broken pen or useless item

The Game: Invite four volunteers to the front and allow each to choose one bag. Have them open the bags at the same time. Ask a few quick questions:

- “Did the label match what was inside?”
- “Were the descriptions technically lies?”
- “Did what you got live up to what was promised?”

Connection:

What just happened shows us something important. Each bag was described in a way that made the item sound better than it actually was. The descriptions were not technically lies, but they painted a picture that didn’t match reality. What was promised didn’t deliver what was expected.

Sin works the same way in our lives. It often looks good on the outside and promises happiness, freedom, or satisfaction, but it never delivers what it offers. Instead, it takes more than it gives and always comes with a cost. Romans 6:23 helps us understand what sin truly leads to and contrasts it with what God offers instead. Let’s read it together.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### **Book:**

*Ask students to read the following passages out loud*

#### **Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### **James 1:14-15**

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

#### **Isaiah 59:2**

But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

#### **Romans 5:8**

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### Theological Truths:

#### **Sin Earns Death**

Sin has a cost, and the Bible describes that cost as death—separation from God. This is what sin pays every person, regardless of intention or effort.

#### **God Offers a Gift**

Eternal life is not earned or deserved. It is a gift given by God, not a reward for good behavior.

#### **Grace Is Given Before We Respond**

God did not wait for us to clean ourselves up. Jesus died for us while we were still sinners, showing that salvation begins with God's love, not our effort.

#### **The Gospel Is a Clear Exchange**

Jesus took the cost of sin upon Himself so that we could receive eternal life. What sin earns, Jesus paid for on the cross.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### Look:

*As we look at our lives, where do we fit in?*

Romans 6:23 shows us that every path leads somewhere. Sin is not just a choice we make in the moment – it produces a result. The Bible describes that result as death, meaning separation from God and the loss of the life He designed us to have. Understanding this helps us see sin clearly, not as harmless or temporary, but as something with lasting consequences.

At the same time, this verse shows us a completely different outcome. While sin earns a wage, God offers a gift. Eternal life is not something we work toward or deserve; it is given freely through Jesus. This contrast helps us understand why the gospel is truly good news – it offers a way out of what sin produces and a new life we could never earn on our own. Romans 5:8 shows us that the gift of grace is not abstract or vague – it was made possible through Jesus' death on the cross and His victory over sin and death through the resurrection.

#### As a Christian

- Remember that sin still leads to loss, even when grace has forgiven it.
- Let gratitude for the gift of salvation motivate obedience, not fear.
- Live with awareness of the life God has given you through Christ.
- Share the gospel by clearly explaining both the cost of sin and the gift of grace, not in our own goodness.

#### As an Unbeliever

- Consider where sin has led in your life and whether it has delivered what it promised.
- Understand that sin earns a result, not just consequences you can undo.
- See that eternal life cannot be earned through effort or good behavior.
- Recognize that God offers salvation as a free gift through Jesus.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### Took:

*How do these Bible passages and truths affect my everyday life?*

Romans 6:23 forces us to take sin seriously and grace personally. If sin truly leads to death, then it is not something to minimize, justify, or excuse in our lives. Following Jesus means turning away from sin not because we fear punishment, but because we understand where sin leads and what it costs. Because Jesus paid the cost of sin through His death and resurrection, following Him means trusting in what He has done, not trying to earn God's approval.

At the same time, understanding grace changes how we live and speak. Eternal life is not something we earn by being better or trying harder—it is a gift we receive through Jesus. This truth gives us confidence to share the gospel honestly. We do not have to convince others to clean themselves up; we simply point them to the gift God offers in Christ..

### Scripture Memory

Read Romans 6:23 and Romans 5:8 aloud together.

Have students explain:

What we earn because of sin

What God gives because of Jesus

### Discussion Questions

- Why is it important to understand what sin leads to, not just how it feels in the moment?
- What is the difference between earning something and receiving a gift?
- How does understanding grace change the way we view obedience?
- Why do people often struggle with the idea that salvation is a gift?
- How can this verse help guide gospel conversations with others?



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### The Response

Romans 10:9–13, Acts 16:30–31, John 14:6

#### Hook:

*Begin this session with the following activity*

What Would You Say

Materials Needed: Slides provided (or read aloud)

Setup:

Tell students you are going to read a few real-life situations. After each one, they should think silently about what they would say in that moment. Let them know there are no right or wrong answers and that they do not have to respond out loud.

The Activity:

Read each scenario slowly:

A friend asks, “Why do you go to church?”

Someone says, “I believe in God, but I don’t think it really matters what you believe.”

A friend says, “I’m a good person. I think that’s enough.”

Someone asks, “How do you know you’re going to heaven?”

After the final scenario, ask:

“Which one felt easiest to answer?”

“Which one felt hardest?”

“Why do you think that is?”

Allow a few students to share if they want, but do not pressure anyone to speak.

Connection:

What this activity shows us is that knowing the gospel and talking about the gospel are not always the same thing. Many of us understand what we believe, but when someone asks a question or makes a statement about faith, it can be hard to know where to start or what to say.

Evangelism often feels intimidating not because we don’t care, but because we’re afraid of saying the wrong thing or not explaining it clearly. God does not ask us to have perfect words – He asks us to be faithful with the truth we’ve been given. Learning how to respond to questions about faith helps us share the gospel with confidence and clarity when opportunities come.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### **Book:**

*Ask students to read the following passages out loud*

#### **Romans 10:9-13**

Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

#### **Acts 10:30-31**

Then he brought them out and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' And they said, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.'

#### **John 14:6**

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

### Theological Truths:

#### **Salvation Requires a Response**

The gospel calls for more than understanding. Scripture shows that salvation involves believing in Jesus and responding to Him in faith.

#### **Faith Is Both Internal and External**

Belief begins in the heart, but Scripture teaches that it moves outward through confession. What we believe internally shapes what we are willing to say publicly.

#### **Jesus Alone Saves**

Salvation is found in no one else. Jesus is the only way to be made right with God, because He alone defeated sin and death.

#### **The Invitation Is for Everyone**

The gospel is not limited to a certain type of person. Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord can be saved.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### **Look:**

*As we look at our lives, where do we fit in?*

Romans 10 shows us that the gospel calls for a response. After understanding our need and seeing what Jesus has done, each person is invited to believe in Jesus and place their trust in Him. Faith is not just agreeing with facts about God, but personally trusting Jesus as Lord and Savior.

This passage also helps us understand how the gospel moves from our hearts to our words. Evangelism is not about winning arguments or having perfect answers – it is about clearly pointing people to Jesus and explaining how they can respond to the gospel. When we share our faith, Scripture gives us the confidence to speak truthfully and simply about what it means to be saved.

#### **As a Christian**

- Be confident that your role is to share the gospel clearly, not to control the outcome.
- Trust that God uses simple obedience and truthful words.
- Look for opportunities to explain how someone can respond to the gospel.
- Share your faith with humility, knowing salvation is God's work.

#### **As an Unbeliever**

- Understand that knowing about Jesus is different than trusting Him personally.
- Consider what it means to believe in Jesus as Lord.
- Recognize that salvation involves responding in faith, not just agreement.
- See that God invites you to call on Him and receive salvation.



## 2026 PRE PROJECT STUDY

### **Took:**

*How do these Bible passages and truths affect my everyday life?*

Romans 10 reminds us that faith is meant to be personal and expressed. Responding to the gospel means trusting Jesus with our lives and being willing to acknowledge that trust. Following Jesus is not something we keep private or hidden—it shapes how we speak, live, and relate to others.

These truths also guide how we share the gospel. Evangelism does not require perfect words or all the answers. It requires faithfulness, honesty, and a willingness to point people to Jesus. When we clearly explain who Jesus is and how someone can respond to Him, we are being obedient, even if the response is not immediate.

### **Scripture Memory**

Read Romans 10:9–10 aloud together as a group.

Break the passage into two parts and repeat each phrase aloud:

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord”

“and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Have students say both verses together without looking.

Encourage them to explain what belief and confession mean in their own words.

### **Discussion Questions**

- Why can it feel difficult to talk about our faith out loud?
- What is the difference between believing something and trusting someone?
- How does Romans 10 help us explain the gospel clearly to others?
- Why is it important to let Scripture guide our conversations about faith?
- Who is one person you could pray for and be ready to share the gospel with?



# TESTIMONY WORKSHOP

## Purpose

This workshop will help students clearly share their personal story in a way that points others to Jesus and supports the Gospel message. Your testimony is not the Gospel – Scripture is.

Your testimony helps show how the Gospel has impacted your life.

## What is a Testimony?

A testimony is your personal story of how Jesus has worked in your life.

It should always point people toward who Jesus is, what He has done, and why the Gospel matters.

A good testimony is honest, clear, and easy to understand.

## Testimony Framework

Your testimony should answer three questions:

### **1. What did my life look like before trusting Jesus?**

What was broken, confusing, or missing?

What was I trusting in instead of Jesus?

(This does not need to be dramatic.)

### **2. How did I come to understand the Gospel?**

How did I learn about Jesus?

When did I realize my need for Him?

What truth helped me understand who Jesus is and what He has done?

### **3. How is my life different because Jesus is my Lord?**

What has changed in my heart, direction, or purpose?

How does following Jesus shape my life now?

## Write it

Take time to write brief answers to each question.

Bullet points are okay.

Keep it clear and simple.

Focus on Jesus more than details.

## Practice It

Pair up with another student.

Each person shares their testimony in 2–3 minutes

## Remember

Your story matters, but Scripture saves.

When you share your testimony, you are pointing others toward the Gospel and inviting them to hear what Jesus has done.