

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

WHY YOU NEED CHURCH  
Romans 1:8-15  
Not Ashamed (Romans) — Week 2

**ICEBREAKER:** How do you deal with doubt?

**OVERVIEW:** Most Christians don't prioritize church involvement. They either avoid church altogether or attend on very rare occasions. Even more alarming is the fact that 60-80% of young adults who were raised in church drop out after high school. But the Bible teaches that church isn't just important to God, it is essential for your spiritual health. In this discussion we will go deeper with why you need church.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. How has church involvement impacted your life?
3. What is the purpose of a Biblical Christian church?
4. What makes you go to church even when you don't feel like it, or even when you are busy?
5. Read Ephesians 5:22-33. This passage is usually used to study the topic of marriage, but it also provides important insights about the church. Paul (the author) compares the church to the body of Christ and the bride of Christ. Answer the following questions about this passage.
  - a) How is the church like a body? If the church is the body of Christ, then what does that mean for your Christian life?
  - b) How is the church like a bride? If the church is the bride of Christ, then how does that impact you?

- c) What does this passage say that Christ does for the church?
- d) According to this passage, how does Christ feel about the church?

6. For the following questions, refer to Sunday's sermon. Why did Paul have such a strong desire to connect with the church in Rome?
7. The sermon mentioned four reasons you need church. What were they?
8. The sermon mentioned four reasons you should care about the church? What were they? Are there any other reasons you should care about the church?
9. What are some things that every church member can do to make the church stronger?
10. What is encouragement, and why do we need it? What does the church have to do with encouragement (see Heb 10:24-25)?
11. What are some of the excuses people give for not going to church? Is there a good excuse for neglecting church involvement? Explain.

**The Last Word:** "The church is not an infirmary; it is a military outpost under orders to storm the gates of hell. Every believer is on active duty, called to take part in fulfilling the Great Commission." Neil Anderson

