Refrigerator Notes 05 March 2017
The Gift: Grace
Romans 5:12-21

1. The epistle to the Roman Christians was about Paul’s understanding of who Jesus was and the promise that surrounds Christ’s death and resurrection.
2. In death, Christ brings forth a new creation
3. Sin enter the world through one man, Adam; According to Paul, sin is doing those things we hate do
4. A part of our Christian journey is our honesty with God; we must be willing to admit first that we have sinned and fallen short of being the person God would have us be
5. Paul is the first to confess that although he follows Christ, he is still a sinner – Romans 7:15
6. Paul was concern with his own ability to stop sinning, yet he tell us that we sin on purpose
7. The wages of sin is death, but all of humanity has been affected by the virus of sin and it is contagious
8. Paul says there is nothing we can do to escape making the same mistakes, the same false steps and the same blunders that Adam made; there is no vaccination to prevent this virus from affecting us, no matter how hard we work, we cannot avoid sinning
9. No one, by force of will, exercise, or healthy eating, will be able to stave off death that holds dominion over us
10. Paul connects the sin and death of all people to one man, Adam, in order to connect the justification and gift of grace to all, through one man, Jesus the Messiah; Paul is asking us to think about sin before we react to the temptations (the messages) that this world sends and gives us
11. Paul says, death itself is given a rich meaning because of the growing and vanishing seasons in our lives and the growth or lack of growth in our faith; but the certainty of death was built into creation
12. Paul compares his main thought in v.12 with verse 19, where he uses language of obedience as a parallel to the righteous deed of v. 18, “Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people”
13. However, it is the obedience of one man that counters the disobedience of the first Adam
14. That same obedience is about a man who went to the cross to give His life for our lives; It was obedience to God's driving purpose that brought salvation to the world
15. Noting that the gift of Jesus' faithfulness and the grace of God is inexpressibly greater than Adam's original trespass, Paul finishes his letter with verse 21, “so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
16. Here’s the catch my friends, If you are in Christ, you will reign in life, because Christ’s gift is greater than Adam’s sin; the work of Christ is greater than Adam’s sin, because it displays and dispenses the abundance of God’s grace
17. The question is, “Will you remain in Adam and die, or will you believe in Jesus and live in eternity?”
18. For those who are in Christ, the victory of death has no sting!