

ROMANS 3:9-26

PRAY: Thanking God for His justification and asking for eyes to see your great need.

REST: List ways you have seen God at work during this week so far.

READ: Through the section once. Read it again, from the beginning of the chapter. Think back through what we have covered in Romans so far and consider how this section fits into the larger argument Paul is making as you read it a third time.

Consider & Respond to these questions:

How can we know Jesus better through this section?

What does it say about who we are to be as disciples?

What does this section say about the world and people around you?

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QUESTIONS FROM SUNDAY

Reflecting on this Sunday's teaching, respond to these questions:

Do you often find yourself reacting defensively? If so, why? How might Romans 3:9-26 help us when we are feeling defensive?

How does acknowledging your brokenness bring freedom? Do you experience that freedom or are you still attempting to grasp perfection? Please explain.

As we discussed on Sunday, the process of "Dealing With Sin" requires (1) an admission of guilt, (2) a confession of sin, (3) a recognition of the heaviness of sin and agreement with God's righteous judgment of that sin, and (4) a response of thankfulness and repentance. Within the context of your relationships, examine which of these areas you struggle with and what steps you can take to grow in each of them.

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Everyone—everyone—regardless of ethnicity, age, background, upbringing, affiliations, or anything else, is unrighteous and separated from God without Jesus. With Jesus, our station is completely reversed—we are justified and our sins are completely paid for. Through Jesus we receive grace and we move from being incapable of relationship with God, and rightly deserving of condemnation, to total reconciliation, becoming members of God's family, and being welcomed into His presence. We can now approach Him with confidence and we have been given grace to obey Him, where before obedience was impossible and insufficient. We have been given His Holy Spirit to guide us to greater obedience and unity and understanding of Him as we grow increasingly in our relationship with Him. Jesus' justification literally changes everything for those who believe and trust in Him and walk in faith.

Law Insufficient: Romans 4:13-16, 5:19-21, 7:7-14, 8:3-4; Galatians 2:17-21; Ephesians 2:14-16; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; Titus 3:4-7; Hebrews 7:18-19

Justification: Genesis 15:6; Job 9:2-12; Psalm 143:1-2; Jeremiah 2:22; Acts 13:37-39; Romans 3:28-30, 5:1-2, 5:18-19; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 3:23-26, 5:3-6

Remission of Sin: Psalm 32:1-2; Matthew 26:26-28; Luke 24:45-48; Acts 2:37-39; 2 Corinthians 5:17-19; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:22-28, 10:14-18; 1 John 2:2, 4:10

As you read, some questions to think about and respond to are:

What does it mean, biblically, to be justified? What does that mean for you personally?

How can grasping your standing with God change your relationship with not only Him and with yourself, but with others (both those who know Him and those who do not)?

What are your honest thoughts and feelings about your work being insufficient? How do you feel about Jesus' work on your behalf?

TO MEMORIZE: ROMANS 3:23-24