



3/1/26 Sermon Discussion Guide

A Journey Through Romans, Part 3

A Quick Summary to Read Aloud:

Romans 3 brings us face to face with the gap between God's righteousness and our sin. Paul makes it clear that no one is righteous on their own. Every mouth is stopped. The Law exposes our guilt, but it cannot save us. Then comes the turning point: "But now." God has revealed a righteousness apart from the Law. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are justified freely by grace. God remains just, because sin is paid for in Christ, and He becomes the justifier of those who believe. The result is not pride, but gratitude, obedience, celebration, and a life that boasts only in Jesus.

A Short Prayer to Start:

Father, we confess that we cannot make ourselves right before You. Thank You for the gift of grace through Jesus Christ. Open our eyes to see the depth of our need and the beauty of Your righteousness. Move us from guilt to gratitude, from self-righteousness to faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

When have you realized you were wrong in an argument or situation and had to stop defending yourself? What did that feel like?

Key Verses to Read

Romans 3:9-31

Psalm 14:1 to 3

Three Questions for the Family/Lifegroup:

- Paul says that every mouth is stopped and the whole world is held accountable to God. Where do you see yourself tempted to defend your own righteousness instead of admitting your need for grace?
- The Law exposes sin, but it cannot save. In what ways do you find yourself slipping into either open rebellion or quiet self-righteousness instead of trusting fully in Christ?
- Justification means being declared righteous because of Jesus, not because of your performance. How would your daily life change if you truly believed that the pressure to earn God's approval was off?

A Simple Weekly Challenge:

This week, pay attention to moments when guilt rises. Instead of trying to fix yourself or hide, pause and thank God that Jesus has already paid for your sin. Then take one concrete step of obedience out of gratitude, not fear. It could be forgiving someone, confessing something honestly, or sharing with someone why Jesus is your hope.

Ending Prayer

Jesus, thank You that You are both just and the One who justifies. Thank You that our sin was not ignored but paid for at the cross. Help us live as people who have been declared righteous by grace. Teach us to obey out of gratitude, to celebrate when others encounter You, and to boast only in Your name. Amen.