

MESSAGE REVIEW

As followers of Jesus, the lens by which we see the world is increasingly at sharp odds with those of our culture. As a result, we are under constant pressure to assimilate and follow the crowd. Each one of us will one day stand before the judgment seat of God. He justifies us freely by His grace, meaning He declares us righteous through the finished work of Jesus. When we put our trust in Him, everything that was ours becomes His (our sin) and everything that was His becomes ours (His righteousness).

WARM UP QUESTION

Describe a time in your life when you got bad news - big or small.

- Read <u>Romans 2:12-16</u>. This is Paul first mention of "the law" in Romans. What is this law? What outcome do both the Jews and Gentiles face despite having or not having the law (verses 12 and 16)? <u>Romans 1:20</u> took away one excuse for not knowing God. How do verses 14-15 take away another excuse? How have you observed the truth of verse 15 in your own life?
- Read Romans 2:17-29. What is Paul accusing the Jews of in verses 17-23? What is the result according to verse 24? How do you see this play out in our world today? What could be a modern-day equivalent of circumcision? Have you experienced a changed heart that has caused you to care more about the praise of God more than the praise of people (verse 29)?
- **Read Romans 3:1-8.** What three questions does Paul anticipate in these verses and how does he respond to each? What do you see as the heart condition behind each question? How does Paul point back to the character of God?
- Read <u>Romans 3:9-20</u>. List all the superlative words you see in this passage. How would Paul respond to the statement, "I'm a pretty good person"? Be honest with your group: do you see yourself being addressed in these verses or do you still tend to think these verses are for other people? When was a time in your life when you came face to face with your own depravity (i.e. every part of our being is corrupted by sin)?
- Read <u>Romans 3:21-31</u>. Paul has spent the first 3-½ chapters trying to get our attention. How is verse 23 a summary? The rest of this passage spells out the Good News! List all the ways Paul describes this Good News. How does spending so much time on the bad news make the Good News even better? What new insight have you gained into the gospel?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at <u>tpcc.org/dbr</u>. Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!