



Getting-to-know-you questions:

For a new group:

Share a little about what you did over the Christmas Holidays.

For an established group:

Why is facing and discussing the reality of sin in our lives so difficult to do?

From the Message:

- 1) Why does Paul take so much time at the beginning of Romans demonstrating the fact of universal guilt before God?
- 2) Does the fact that God is just and will judge without bias comfort or concern you? Why?
- 3) How should the fact that God doesn't show favoritism impact our attitude towards others, particularly those whom we view as less moral than ourselves?
- 4) Why do people so often miss the fact that God's kindness, forbearance, and patience is meant to lead them to repentance?
- 5) Discuss the way that justification by faith and being judged by our works work together rather than contradicting each other.
- 6) Are you confident that you have received God's praise? Why or why not?

Read:

Luke 18:9-14; Luke 7:36-50

And Or

The Book of Romans: Part 1
Session 3: Romans 2:1-29

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/player/video/750879?session=756027&position=0>

Discuss from the readings:

- 1) How does the attitude of the Pharisee parallel the attitudes that Paul addresses in Romans 2?
- 2) Why is it so easy for us to have this same type of attitude?
- 3) Why was the Tax Collector justified before God instead of the Pharisee?
- 4) How do the events of Luke 7:36-50 help us better understand what Paul was saying in Romans 2: 1-4?

Discuss from the video:

- 1) What are the three negative qualities that religion produces in people?
- 2) Where do you see judgment of others in your own life? How does it affect you and your relationships?
- 3) Who are the people in your life most impacted by the way you represent God?
- 4) Whose praise are you working for today? What could it look like for you to desire the praise of God more than the praise of people?

Prayer:

- 1) Pray that we would be humbly gracious for the work God has done in us.
- 2) Pray that we would have compassion to those caught up in their sin.