



RIGHT WITH GOD

Romans
5:1-11



This week's **FOCUS**

No matter what you and your friends or siblings tend to argue about, the truth is that all of our lives are marked by conflict. What's more important than considering what we argue about, however, is to evaluate the root of the conflict in our lives. If we know what's driving us toward conflict, then we can take steps toward making things right. James said that the driving force behind our fights with others is the "passions that wage war within you" (James 4:1). In other words, our sinful desires drive the conflicts in our lives. Today we are going to be reminded that we are all in a conflict with God that we cannot solve. Thankfully, God has done everything necessary to solve this conflict. As we look at Romans 5:1-11, we will see that the gospel brings reconciliation with God to all who believe, proving God's love for us.

Central **TRUTH**

The gospel brings reconciliation with God to all who believe, proving God's love for us.



EXPLORATION

Romans 5:1-11

Begin by reading through the passage.

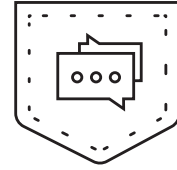
1 Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 We have also obtained access through him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, 4 endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. 5 This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. 6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For rarely will someone die for a just person—though for a good person perhaps someone might even dare to die. 8 But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 How much more then, since we have now been declared righteous by his blood, will we be saved through him from wrath. 10 For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, then how much more, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received this reconciliation.

.01 WHAT DO MOST STUDENTS YOUR AGE TEND TO GET INTO ARGUMENTS OR CONFLICTS ABOUT?

Talk it out

.02 WHAT DOES THE PRESENCE OF THESE ARGUMENTS AND CONFLICTS IN OUR LIVES TELL US ABOUT OURSELVES?

CONVERSATION



Romans 5:1-5

.03 WHAT DOES PAUL SAY THOSE WHO ARE JUSTIFIED NOW HAVE? WHY IS THIS GOOD NEWS?

.04 IF WE NOW HAVE PEACE WITH GOD, WHAT DOES THAT IMPLY ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD BEFORE TRUSTING JESUS? WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE?

.05 WHAT DOES PEACE WITH GOD RESULT IN (VV. 2-5)? MAKE A LIST.

.06 HOW DOES THE GOSPEL CHANGE OUR PERSPECTIVE ON SUFFERING AND DIFFICULTY?



LITERARY CONTEXT

The word Paul uses for “we stand” is in a tense that communicates a completed action, the results of which continue in full force. So Paul declared that believers receive a complete supply of God’s grace at conversion, yet its benefits keep on working throughout our lives and in whatever situations we find ourselves. In particular, God’s grace continually helps us stand strong in faith when we face life’s trials (see 2 Cor. 12:8-9). Moreover, God’s grace is sufficient to help us stand without fear before our Lord when He returns to claim His people (see 1 Pet. 1:13).

Reflect and respond.



05

Romans 5:6-8

.07 WHAT WOULD MOST PEOPLE BE WILLING TO DIE FOR? HOW WAS CHRIST'S DEATH DIFFERENT?

.08 HOW HAS GOD PROVEN HIS LOVE FOR YOU? HOW SHOULD THIS CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK AND LIVE?

Romans 5:9-11

.09 WHY DID WE NEED TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD? WHAT SEPARATED US FROM HIM? WHAT VERSE FROM OUR STUDY CAN YOU RECALL THAT EXPRESSES THIS?

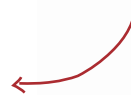
.10 HOW DID JESUS ACCOMPLISH THIS MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION? WHAT IMPACT DOES THIS HAVE ON OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD? WITH OTHERS?



THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

God showed His love by saving sinners when we were at our worst: helpless and ungodly. Since this amazing display of divine love is true, how much more can we trust the promise that we will be saved through Him from wrath? As believers, we have nothing to fear about the end-time judgment because we are no longer under God's wrath. Our sin-debt has been paid in full by a loving God who gave His only Son to die in our place (see 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9).

Journal your response here.



CENTRAL TRUTH

The gospel brings reconciliation with God to all who believe, proving God's love for us.

NOW WHAT?



How does this apply to your life?

.11 WHEN ARE YOU MOST TEMPTED TO THINK GOD DOESN'T LOVE YOU? WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED IN THIS SESSION TO COMBAT SUCH WRONG THINKING?

.12 THINK ABOUT A DIFFICULT TIME YOU OR YOUR FAMILY HAS RECENTLY FACED. WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM THIS? HOW HAVE YOU GROWN?

.13 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD AND HOW SHOULD THIS SHAPE HOW WE THINK ABOUT OURSELVES? HOW WE THINK ABOUT GOD?

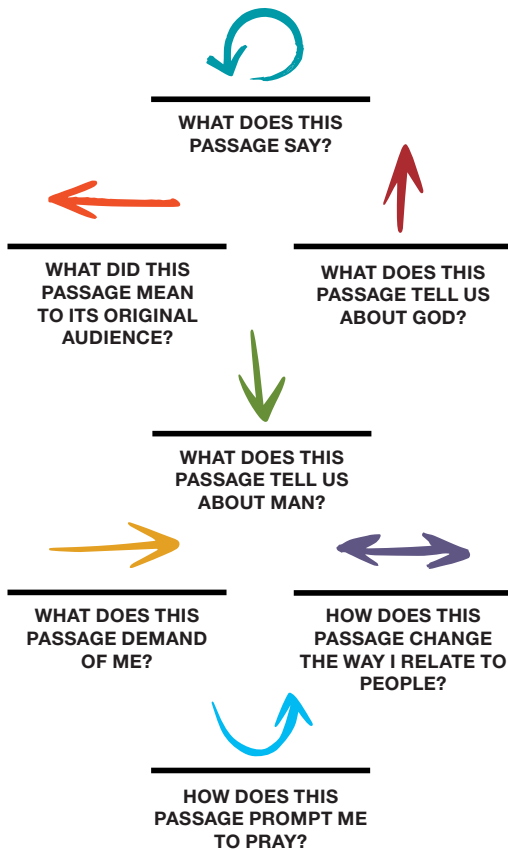
.14 HOW SHOULD BEING RECONCILED TO GOD THROUGH JESUS SHAPE HOW WE TREAT OTHER PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY THOSE WE FIND HARD TO GET ALONG WITH?



Daily DEVOTIONS

Choose five days this week to set aside time to dig deeper into God's Word with these devotions. We hope you'll make this a priority and encourage others in your group to do so as well.

7 Arrows FOR BIBLE READING



Day One ROMANS 5:1-5

Dwell

The first few verses of Romans 5 give a detailed list of all the benefits of the righteousness we receive by faith: peace with God, access to His grace, and the ability to rejoice in hope as well as afflictions. On top of that, we understand that even our difficult times are molding us with endurance and character. Pour on the love of God; what an amazing list of blessings!



.01 WHAT REASONS DO WE HAVE TO REJOICE, ACCORDING TO THESE VERSES?



.02 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO REJOICE? WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU REJOICED FOR YOUR SALVATION?

Memorize

Write each word from this week's verse on a different index card. Mix them up and then place them in order.

Pray

Thank God for your salvation. Add to Paul's list of benefits in Romans 5:1-5.

Day Two

ROMANS 5:6-11

Dwell

Repeated words, phrases, or concepts in Scripture hold the same meaning as when we repeat a part of a story: that's the important part. In this passage, Paul spells it out over and over: you were helpless. Christ died while you were still sinful. God loves you so much. The love of God and the sacrifice of Jesus give us the power to have a relationship we could never earn.



.01 HOW MANY TIMES DO THESE VERSES REVEAL THAT CHRIST DIED FOR US?



.02 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD? WHAT DID HE DO TO RECONCILE US?

Memorize

Use a dry erase marker to write this week's verse on a mirror. Say it aloud. For a challenge, erase one word and say it again. Repeat!

Pray

Praise God for loving us enough to send His son as our saving sacrifice.

Day Three

ROMANS 5:12-14

Dwell

Sin is powerful and brings death along with it. When sin entered the world through the first humans, it entered all mankind. You've seen it; you've experienced it; you've lived it. Every time you have heard a rule or law, you've been tempted to break it. Sin is knowing God's standards and choosing to say "no."



.01 HOW AWARE ARE YOU OF YOUR OWN SIN? HOW AWARE ARE YOU OF THE SIN OF OTHERS?



.02 HOW DOES THIS DESCRIPTION OF SIN HELP US TO SHOW GRACE, MERCY, AND FORGIVENESS?

Memorize

Write down just the important words from this week's verse (nouns, verbs, adjectives). Try to say the verse aloud by filling in the other words.

Pray

Ask God to reveal your sin to you; when you see it, choose to listen to God and obey His laws.

Day Four

ROMANS 5:15-17

Dwell

We have no need to fear sin; though sin entered the world through Adam and spread to all humanity, the gift of grace came through Jesus. Jesus' gift is more powerful than sin; it enables us to live in overflowing grace and righteousness. Sin led to our condemnation, but the gift of Jesus covers it and enables us to be justified by God. This is really good news!



.01 HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU SEE THE WORD "OVERFLOW" OR SOMETHING SIMILAR? WHAT IMAGE DOES IT GIVE?



.02 SALVATION IS DESCRIBED AS A GIFT; HOW DO WE ACCEPT IT?

Memorize

Make up motions for each short phrase in this week's verse. Practice saying it aloud as you do the motions.

Pray

Ask God to give you an opportunity to overflow with His grace, love, and mercy today.

Day Five

ROMANS 5:18-21

Dwell

Drawing this illustration to a close, Paul contrasts Jesus and Adam: One trespass led to one condemnation; one righteous act led to justification. Adam's sin spread, but the grace of Jesus has the ability to spread even more. Even though we're tempted by sin and the law reveals our brokenness, Jesus' grace leads us to righteousness.



.01 HOW DID THIS PASSAGE SPEAK TO A JEWISH BELIEVER? HOW DID IT SPEAK TO A GENTILE BELIEVER?



.02 USE TODAY'S PASSAGE TO CONFESS YOUR OWN SIN AND PRAISE HIM FOR THE RIGHTEOUSNESS HE GIVES.

Memorize

Try to set this week's verse to a simple kids' song. Sing it aloud during your down time.

Pray

Meditate for a few minutes on the grace of Jesus. Let your prayer flow from your thoughts.