

5

Leader Guide

How Can They Believe?

October 30, 2022

Main Passage: Romans 10:1-17

Theological Theme

Paul stressed the vast difference between believing righteousness can be achieved by the law and the truth that righteousness comes by faith in Christ alone.

Introduction

- ❓ What was a childhood belief you held strongly? How did you respond when you found out the truth?
- ❓ How would it have looked if you refused to believe the truth and kept clinging to that childhood faith?

1. Futile Attempts at Righteousness (Romans 10:1-8)

Paul shared his heart and exposed his soul about the burden he felt for his people. His heart was broken for the way he saw His fellow Jews missing out on the truth.

- ❓ How is it possible to be devoted and devout in your faith yet still believe falsehoods over truth? Has this ever happened to you?
- ❓ What are some forms of “righteousness” that people seek instead of the righteousness of God?
- ❓ Application: How have you pursued futile attempts at righteousness? What will you do to trust the gospel now?

2. True Righteousness by Faith (Romans 10:9-13)

After contrasting the different approaches to righteousness, Paul described in detail what righteousness by faith in Jesus looks like. It is not something to be achieved by works or effort but received by confessing and believing in Jesus Christ.

- ❓ Where do you have a “leave it all on the field” mentality in life? While this can be a good thing in some areas, how can it impact your trust in Jesus alone?
- ❓ How would you describe the difference between believing in your head and believing in your heart?
- ❓ Application: What needs to change in your life based on the availability of the gospel to all people? How should this change your daily actions?

3. Urgency of Sharing the Gospel (Romans 10:14-17)

After covering the details of salvation, Paul moved to what should be the natural response of people who have confessed and believed in Jesus Christ. There should be a sense of urgency when considering the lost among us.

- ❓ Who comes to mind when you think about people around you that are missing out on faith in Jesus?
- ❓ How does our church support, encourage, and send people to spread the gospel?
- ❓ Application: How and when will you speak up and share the good news of the gospel this week?

Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

- ❓ What does this passage say?
- ❓ What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about man?
- ❓ What does this passage demand of me?
- ❓ How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
- ❓ How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).