

Getting Started

1. Have you ever been part of a jury or witnessed another court case? What was it like?
2. Do you ever watch Judge Judy or another court-type show? Is this how court actually works?
3. What is your understanding of the authority of scripture?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 60:

Q. How are you righteous before God?

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.¹

Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them,² and of still being inclined toward all evil,³ nevertheless, without any merit of my own,⁴ out of sheer grace,⁵ God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ,⁶ as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me.⁷

All I need to do is accept this gift with a believing heart.⁸

¹ Rom. 3:21-28; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil 3:8-11 ² Rom. 3:9-10 ³ Rom. 7:23 ⁴ Titus 3:4-5

⁵ Rom. 3:24; Eph. 2:8 ⁶ Rom. 4:3-5 (Gen. 15:6); 2 Cor. 5:17-19; 1 John 2:1-2 ⁷ Rom. 4:24-25; 2 Cor. 5:21 ⁸ John 3:18; Acts 16:30-31

How does contemplating your sin and the grace of God make you feel?

6. Compare 1 Cor. 15:17; Gal. 3:10, 22; John 15:22 with Romans 3:9. What are these verses saying? What do they mean?
7. Compare each of Paul's quotes to the actual verses; are they direct quotes, paraphrases or something different? Romans 3:10-12 (Ps. 14:1-3 (Ps. 53:1-3)), vs. 13 (Ps. 5:9, 140:3b), vs. 14 (Ps. 10:7), vs. 15-17 (Isa. 59:7-8a), vs. 18 (Ps. 36:1b).
8. Proverbs 1:7; Matthew 10:28; Psalm 111:10 and 1 Peter 2:17 all speak of fearing the Lord. Why is fear of the Lord so important?

Application

9. Every single person is a sinner. In order to receive the grace of God in Jesus Christ we have to accept that we are sinners. In Christ we can be justified. Confess your sins to God and be forgiven.

Praying Scripture

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · February 5, 2017

The Gospel: Class is in Session

“Making a Case”

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:19, 20

- The _____ of _____ is for all people.
- In order to _____ the gospel we must be _____ of our sinfulness.
- No amount of good can _____ us, but God _____ us.

Topics: Scripture, truth, condemnation, justification