



DOING LIFE TOGETHER

11. Time and time again through our study through the book of Romans, Paul has reminded us that our salvation and His love for us is wholly and completely rooted in God's grace. Why is it important to remind ourselves that God's love is not contingent on how good we have been? How might our walk with Christ suffer if we lose sight of this reality?

12. What difficult situation are you, your family, or your friends currently facing? How might remembering God's love for you in Christ change your perspective on this trial? Why is it equally important to remember God's love for us in times of blessing?

13. What is one step you could take this week to live with a greater awareness of God's love for you? How might we as a group help each other acknowledge and celebrate God's love?

Prayer Requests

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March 29, 2015

Hope and Rejoicing in Hopeless Situations

Sermon Notes

Romans 5:1-11

What righteousness credited by F _____ D _____ for us?

1. It gives us Reasons to R_____ (v. 1-2a)

2. It gives No Reason for E_____ (v. 2b-5a)

3. It gives us More Reasons for H_____ (v. 9-11)

You can experience hope and joy in the midst of A_____ C_____ because you are L_____ B_____ G_____

What do I need to do with what I have heard today?

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

March 29, 2015

THINKING THINGS THROUGH

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word “love”? How does our culture conceive of love? How do you think most Canadians would define love?
2. How did you think about and define love as a teenager? How has your conception or understanding of love changed since then?
3. Have you ever been tempted to doubt that God loves you? What situations in life contributed to those doubts?

DIGGING DEEPER

READ PSALM 34:1-10.

4. What was David’s life like at the time he wrote Psalm 34 (vv. 2,4,6,17; see also 1 Samuel 21:10-15)? How had God shown love to David in the midst of his trials (vv. 4-10)?

5. Despite the current state of his life and recent trials, David said, “I will boast in the LORD” (v. 2). Why do you think David is able to praise the Lord so freely and joyfully in the midst of trying circumstances?

6. David not only boasts in the Lord in the midst of his afflictions, he also challenges us to “taste and see that the LORD is good” (v. 8). How might the trials and difficulties in our lives help us see and experience the goodness of God more deeply?

READ PSALM 32:3-11.

7. According to verses 3-5, what has God done for us? How do you see God’s love for us on display in these verses?
8. How do the spiritual truths found in verses 3-5 enable you to rejoice while suffering or facing difficult circumstances (v. 6)?
9. Peter indicates in verse 7 that God has a plan for the trials He lets believers face. What is that plan? How might trials result in “indescribable and glorious joy” (v. 8) for those who love Christ?
10. Look at 1 Peter 2:1-3. What does Peter say we will do if we have experienced God’s love? How does Jesus make us able to “taste and see that the Lord is good” (Ps. 34:8; 1 Peter 2:3)?