

Romans: Living and Breathing the Gospel
Week 6
Romans 3:21-31

1. What does it mean to be “saved”? How does one get “saved”? How would you explain the process to someone who genuinely wanted to know? How would you explain the process to someone who didn’t?
2. Think about each of the following words Paul uses to explain our salvation.
 - Justified
 - Redeemed
 - Propitiation
 - Grace
 - Faith
 - Righteousness

Which of these terms make sense to you? Which ones are confusing?

3. How can God’s justice and God’s love be fully present at the same time?
4. How does your understanding of grace change the way you think about your sin? Does it give you a “license” to sin or does it motivate you to live in greater obedience? Why?
5. What, apart from Christ, might you be tempted to boast in as the grounds of your self-confidence or self-worth today? How will you change the way you think about that today? (Take a look at the chart on the back to help you think this through.)
6. What steps have you taken in 2021? How are you growing through these steps?
 - a. **Live and breathe the gospel**—What environments will you commit to in the new year to grow?
 - b. **Love your church family**—How will you use what you have been given to build up our church?
 - c. **Lead a friend to Jesus**—Who are you praying for? How will you become a better listener and make time for spiritual conversations? What risks do you need to take?

Boasting in Yourself vs. Boasting in Christ

	When I <i>boast</i> in my performance record	When I <i>boast</i> in Christ alone
<p>Look in</p> <p>How do I see myself?</p>	<p>Turmoil & Anxiety</p> <p>“I’m not enough.”</p> <p>“I’m ashamed because I’ll never measure up.”</p> <p>“I can’t keep this up.”</p> <p>“I can’t rest.”</p> <p>“What if people see the real me?”</p> <p>“What if I fail?”</p> <p>“I’m worthless unless I achieve.”</p> <p>“My worth is in my achievement.”</p>	<p>Peace</p> <p>“I experience the joy of knowing that I am a child of God.”</p> <p>“I’m not dependent on praise.”</p> <p>“I’m not rocked by criticism.”</p> <p>“I genuinely believe that I haven’t really earned anything.”</p>
<p>Look around</p> <p>How do I see others?</p>	<p>Power & Comparison</p> <p>“I can never be as _____ as _____”</p> <p>“I have to stay ahead of _____”</p> <p>“I have to please _____ to get what I want.”</p> <p>“I give to get something in return.”</p> <p>“I have trouble receiving and giving hard feedback.”</p> <p>“I struggle to rejoice in the success of others.”</p> <p>“I’m afraid to let people see the real me.”</p> <p>“I live in constant frustration with others.”</p>	<p>Love</p> <p>“I believe that God is for me—even if others are against me.”</p> <p>“I can do for others without expecting anything in return.”</p> <p>“I can love my enemies with no ulterior motive.”</p> <p>“I care for the vulnerable, who will never be able to repay me.”</p> <p>“I’m not disappointed or frustrated when others don’t see the good I’ve done.”</p>
<p>Look ahead</p> <p>How do I see the future?</p>	<p>Fear</p> <p>“What if I lose _____?”</p> <p>“I worry about what I can’t control.”</p>	<p>Confidence</p> <p>“I’m focused on God’s kingdom, which is eternal, not mine, which is temporary.”</p> <p>“I genuinely believe that God will use my trials and pain for my ultimate good.”</p>