

Community Group Questions
Romans 1:16-17

1. Read Romans 1:16-17. What did you find most helpful or encouraging from this week's passage and message?
2. Can you think of a time where you felt embarrassed or ashamed of something or someone?
3. Shame is usually associated with negative connotations, but Paul does use shame as a motivator in passages like 1 Corinthians 6:4-6 and Romans 1:27. How would you differentiate ways that shame can be helpful and hurtful?
4. The sermon mentioned three reasons people might be ashamed of the gospel (cultural pressure, ridicule, opposition). Which one of those most resonates with you? Why?
5. How would you answer someone who asked you why you think the gospel is the best news of all?
6. How should knowing that the gospel is for "the Greeks, the barbarians, the wise, the foolish, the Jews and the Gentiles" encourage you not to limit who you might think is a good candidate for the gospel?
7. How would you summarize "the righteousness of God" based on the following verses in Romans: 1:17; 3:5,21, 22; 10:3?
8. The message ended with this question and answer from the Heidelberg Catechism:
Q: How are you righteous before God?
A: Only by a true faith in Jesus Christ; that is, though my conscience accuse me that I have grievously sinned against all the commandments of God and kept none of them, and am still inclined to all evil, yet God, without any merit of mine, of mere grace, grants and imputes to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never committed any sin, and myself had accomplished all the obedience which Christ has rendered for me; if only I accept such benefit with a believing heart.

Which part of that stands out to you as offering assurance of salvation in spite of our doubts and failures?