

Life Group Leader Guide

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Romans 5:1

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Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Intro to Passage

The book of Romans gives the fullest picture of the gospel in the whole Bible. The gospel is the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus: humanity is stuck in sin, but God opens the way for us to become right with him by faith in Jesus (chapters 1-4). The gospel is the power of God for salvation, the ground of our hope, presently freeing us from slavery to sin and the condemnation of the law through which gives us the blessing of his Spirit and assurance of eternal life (chapters 5-8). And so after developing the idea of being made right with God by faith using the example of Abraham (chapter 4), the Apostle Paul shows the effect of this faith for us: peace with God through Jesus.



Context

- Read Romans 3:21-30; 4:1-5; vv. 13-25
- Read Galatians 2:15-16
- Read Zechariah 3:1-5

Digging Deeper: Study Questions

- “Since we have been *justified*”— What does it mean to be ‘justified’? Make your case from Scripture.
- “*justified by faith*”— What is faith? What is the difference between ‘faith’ and wishful thinking?
- “we have *peace with God*”— What kind of peace is this? In what way do we have peace with God differently now through Jesus than we had before we knew Jesus?
- “*justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*”— How does Jesus make justification by faith and peace with God possible? Could we simply be justified by faith and have peace with God without Him? Why or why not?
- In verse 1, Paul assumes that his audience has faith; but how do you know whether or not you have true saving faith?

Application Questions

- Have you struggled with feeling good enough or accepted by God? How do you think this verse speaks to that struggle?



- That we are made right with God by simple trust in Jesus to save us from our sin flies in the face of our own self-made, self-righteous, or self-accomplished work. Why do you think God set it up this way? How does this gospel truth inspire you to worship?
- We live in a world with broken relationships and sinful actions that lead to chaos and uncertainty. What effect does peace with God have on you in the midst of these things?
- The most important relationship you have is your relationship with God. How does peace with God form the foundation for your peace with others? How might peace with God lead you to be at peace with others, if at all?

Prayer Guides

- Pray for yourself: Pray that God would grant you more faith to trust his promises; pray that God would liberate you from self-righteousness and give you security in Christ's righteousness.
- Pray for our church: Pray that God provides everything we need to accomplish everything he wants. Pray for the hurting, grieving, sick, and suffering. Pray for those who have lost loved ones, that the God of all comfort would comfort them in Christ (2 Cor. 1).
- Pray for others: Pray that God's kingdom would continue to advance in the South Bay. Pray that God's Spirit would empower God's people with boldness and clarity to share his gospel. Pray that many would come to church and find the truth that is in Jesus.
- Pray for the world: Pray for rulers, politicians, and those in authority. Pray for our missionaries. Pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.

