SERMON NOTES

FAITH ALONE

Romans 3:21-31

BIG IDEA: Our only means of justification before God is faith alone.

APPLICATION GUIDE

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

DISCUSS

Have you ever felt like you couldn't do enough to meet someone's expectations? What was that experience like?

We often feel pressure to measure up to the expectations of others. But what about God's expectations? His standard is perfect righteousness, and we've all fallen short. So how can guilty sinners be declared righteous before a holy God? That's the central question addressed by the doctrine of Sola Fide—faith alone.

EXPLORE

What does Paul mean when he says God's righteousness has been revealed "apart from the law" (vv. 21-22)? How is this different from trying to earn righteousness through obedience?

Why does Paul emphasize that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (vv. 22-23)? What does this reveal about our need for justification?

How does Jesus Christ make it possible for God to declare guilty sinners righteous while remaining perfectly just Himself (vv. 24-26)?

According to Paul, how do we receive justification? Why does justification by faith alone eliminate every reason for boasting (vv. 27-31)?

APPLY

What are some ways we might subtly rely on our morality, religious activities, or good works to make ourselves acceptable to God rather than trusting in Christ alone?

How should knowing that your justification rests entirely on Christ's righteousness—not your own performance—change the way you respond to guilt, failure, and struggles with sin?

We are justified by faith alone, but genuine faith produces good works (James 2:14–26). How should this truth shape the way you pursue obedience without treating your obedience as a means of earning God's favor?