

## OUTLINE

1. I was guilty
2. But God declared me righteous
3. Now I am righteous in God's sight

## REVIEW

**READ** Romans 4:1-8; 5:1-2, 17

### OBSERVE

1. What does it mean to be "justified"?
2. What did God do to justify believers (4:6, 5:17)?
3. How do faith and works relate to justification (4:1-8)?
4. How does justification affect our lives today (5:1-2)?

### INTERPRET

1. Why might someone reject God's justification?
2. If someone told you they wanted to be forgiven by God, what would you tell them to do?
3. How are our lives different if we've been justified?

## ASSESS

1. What do you have or do that makes you feel as if you are righteous compared to other people?
2. How do you act when you know you are in the wrong?
3. When was the last time you forgave someone? What was your reason for forgiving that person?
4. When and how do you try to prove yourself to other people? If you are righteous in God's sight, how should that affect your desire to prove yourself?
5. Justified people...
  - have peace with God
  - have access by faith to God's grace
  - rejoice in hope of the glory of God.How did your attitude over the past week line up with the attitude of someone who has been justified by God?

## NOTES

## DIG DEEPER

Weekly Reading Plan

**1 John 1**  
**1 John 2**  
**1 John 3**  
**1 John 4**  
**1 John 5**

# MUTUAL MINISTRY

## *HOW DID YOUR PLAN GO?*

### APPLY

1. How confident are you that you have been justified by God? If you are less than 100% confident, share why with your Small Group, and ask them to process what your next step is with you.
2. Whom do you need to forgive as you've been forgiven?
3. Whom do you need to ask to forgive you?
4. How often do you justify yourself? Every time you realize you're justifying yourself, stop and ask for forgiveness.
5. Forgetting our justification can cause us to be prideful toward others, because we forget our sin. It can also cause us to despair, because we see our sin as unforgivable. Keep a daily journal this week of ways you've sinned. At the end of each entry write, "But God declared me righteous!"
6. How can you approach the coming summer so you are intentionally enjoying your peace with God, your access by faith to God's grace, and the hope of the glory of God?
7. Are there any other steps of obedience God is calling you to from the sermon?

**I WILL**

**WILL**