

GRACE: THE TRUTH THAT TRANSFORMS

DOES A LOVING GOD JUDGE? (Romans 2:1-16)
Talk-it-Over Notes | February 28 - March 1, 2026

REVIEW IT

Self-righteousness is bad for you and bad for others. Jesus condemned self-righteousness more harshly than most other sins. Do you have self-righteous tendencies? Here are four characteristics:

- 1) Self-righteous people *accuse* others and *excuse* themselves
- 2) They measure other people by the wrong standard
- 3) They think judging others puts them in a better position
- 4) Self-righteous people misinterpret God's blessing on their life

It is wrong to judge others...

1. When it blinds you to your own faults
2. When you draw conclusions based on outward appearance
3. When you condemn somebody before hearing the facts
4. When you judge a person's spirituality based on external observances
5. When it causes you to slander another believer
6. Before the appointed time

Only God has the right to judge others...

- He will judge people on the day of judgement
- He will judge on truth and impartiality
- He will judge according to our conduct, conscience and character

Spend some time in the word: Read Romans 2:1-16

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Look over the four characteristics of a self-righteous person... Which one stands out to you? Why does Jesus, Paul, and the rest of the Bible address self-righteousness so harshly?
2. Read Romans 2:4. As you think back over your life, what amazing things has God given you? What practical things can you do to remind yourself of his grace and kindness to you?
3. When have you personally experienced a lack of justice and what hope does it give you that, one day, everyone will receive God's perfect justice?
4. What is the relationship between our conduct, conscience and character? What stood out to you about this section of the message?
5. How would you sum up this sermon in a sentence or two?

ACT ON IT

If you sat down with Jesus and asked him to point out where you have one standard for yourself and another for others, what do you think he would say? *"But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed."* Romans 2:5 NLT — This week, focus on repenting from your own stubbornness rather than the stupidity of others.

PRAY ABOUT IT

Take time to ask how you can pray for and support one another in prayer. Then, close in prayer. The Serenity Prayer would be good a closing prayer with this week.