# LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

## None Righteous

Romans 3:9-20

Additional passages: Psalm 51:5, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 5:12-21, Ephesians 2:1-3, Genesis 3:1-15.

**Introduction**: This passage in Romans focuses on human depravity. Paul answers the question, "What was actually lost when Adam fell into sin?"

## Redeemer Church Statement of Faith

Article III provides a thorough summary of Scripture's teaching about human depravity.

#### Article III - Of the Fall

Humanity was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker (Gen 1:27, 31; Eccl 7:29; Acts 17:26-29; Gen 2:16). By voluntary transgression, however, humanity fell from that holy and happy state (Gen 3:6-24; Rom 5:12). As a result, all mankind are now sinners (Rom 5:19; John 3:6; Ps 51:5; Rom 5:15-19; Rom 8:7), not by constraint but by choice (Isa 53:6; Gen 6:12; Rom 3:9-18). Being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, they are now positively inclined to evil. Therefore, mankind stands under just condemnation to eternal ruin (Eph 2:1-3; Rom 1:18,32; Rom 2:1-16; Gal 3:10; Matt 20:15), without defense or excuse (Ezek 18:19-20; Rom 1:20; Rom 3:19; Gal 3:22).

**Summary**: The Bible teaches that we are sinners by nature and by choice. We choose sin *because* we are sinners. We choose sin because it is what we most want to do.

### Key definitions:

- Original Sin, a term coined by Augustine, definition from J.I. Packer: "sinfulness marks
  everyone from birth, and is there in the form of a motivationally twisted heart, prior to any actual sins;
  this inner sinfulness is the root and source of all actual sins; it derives to us in a real though
  mysterious way from Adam, our first representative before God. The assertion of original sin makes the
  point that we are not sinners because we sin, but rather we sin because we are sinners, born with a
  nature enslaved to sin."
- Total Depravity (provided by Pastor John): Human beings are morally corrupted in every facet of their nature. No part of human nature has avoided the corruption of sin. Our wills are corrupt so that we are unable to desire and do what is spiritually good.

## Questions

- 1. How does Genesis 1 repeatedly describe God's creation? What is the apex of God's creation (Gen 1:26-28)?
- 2. What does Romans 5:12-21 teach about the impact of Adam's sin on every human being who comes after him (except for Jesus)?

- 3. What do Isaiah 53:6 and Genesis 6:5, 12 teach about our intentions prior to our conversion?
- 4. What does Ephesians 2:1-3 teach about the condition of man apart from Jesus Christ?
- 5. Why does God continue to demand something that we are unable to do? Pastor John said Romans 3:20 tells us: Because we must see our need for Jesus Christ. We must repent and believe in Jesus to be saved. Discuss the importance of these truths and any questions you have about them.
- 6. Who do you know who is not a believer in Jesus who you are seeking to share Him with?