

# LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

## Romans 1:17 – The Righteousness of God

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"For in it [the gospel] the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

### Background

Pastor John talked about how Martin Luther was terrified of God because he knew he did not measure up to God's holiness. Luther came to understand over time that God provided a way for men to be saved not by sweeping our sin under the rug, but by placing it on His perfect Son, who died in our place and rose from the dead.

God is completely holy and because of our sin we are guilty and deserve to be punished. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus took our place and God counts the righteousness of Jesus to all who repent and believe in Him – God views us as righteous in His sight.

### Important definitions/interpretations:

- **Righteousness of God:** God is right, He is the standard of holiness. Righteousness is something that is in accord with God's perfect character.
- **From faith for faith:** an intensifier, meaning by faith through and through. Entirely by faith, from beginning to end.
- **Righteous shall live by faith:** The one who by faith in Jesus is righteous shall live. Those who trust in the perfect righteousness of Christ as the source of their salvation have eternal life.

### Questions:

1. When you think of God's perspective towards you, what comes to mind? (displeasure, favor, happiness, impatience, etc.). Why do you think that is what comes to mind?
2. Martin Luther talked about the "sweet exchange:" our sin for Christ's righteousness. Do you have any questions about this important and precious truth? (Consider Rom 5:17, 10:4; 2 Cor 5:21, Phil 3:9)
3. What does your confidence that you are not guilty in the presence of the holy God rest in?
4. Does your day-to-day relationship with God and view of yourself reflect that His acceptance of you is based on Jesus' work or that His acceptance of you is based on your moral performance?
5. In Christ, we are free (Gal 5:1). What kind of life has Christ freed us to? (Consider Rom 6:1-4, Gal 5:13-14)
6. When you consider that God has counted the perfect record of Christ to you and has adopted you based on that work and no good work that you have done, what does it stir in your heart/mind in response?
7. Who can you share the good news of the gospel with this week?