

JUST WORDS

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS



Righteous Week of Sept. 11th

THE MAIN POINT

The Lord's response to our unrighteousness is remarkable, the "righteousness of God," - God-setting-things-right in Jesus.

KEY TEACHINGS

- Righteous: A right standing; a state of being just or right. Refers both to our standing before God, and his perfect righteousness.
- Paul makes sure everyone knows they are unrighteous. NO EXCEPTIONS! Rom. 1:29-30; 2:1-3; 3:10-12.
- The "righteousness of God" (Rom. 3:21) means God is in the right, and God is setting things right by means of Jesus.

Weekly Bible Readings

Monday - Romans 1:1-17

Tuesday - Romans 1:18-27

Wednesday - Romans 1:28-2:4

Thursday - Romans 2:5-16

Friday - Romans 2:17-29

Reflect

Q: Martin Luther called the whole Christian life "one of repentance." What does it mean for you to repent?

Q: In our world, do people think of themselves more as righteous or unrighteous? Why do you think so?

Q: Why do you think it's so easy for us to have "blind spots?" To be unaware of our own flaws and mistakes?

Q: When you look in the mirror, honest about your unrighteousness, what sins stand out the most?

Q: In your own words, describe the difference between human righteousness and "the righteousness of God." (Rom. 3:21-22)

Key Quotes:

"If my sinfulness appears to me to be in any way smaller or less detestable in comparison with the sins of others, I am still not recognizing my sinfulness at all. My sin is of necessity the worst, the most grievous, the most reprehensible." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

"God does not want to redeem us through our own, but through external righteousness and wisdom, not through righteousness that comes from us and grows in us, but through one that comes to us from the outside. Therefore, we must be taught a righteousness that comes completely from the outside and is foreign." - Martin Luther

"When I acknowledge that I cannot be righteous before God . . . then I begin to seek my righteousness from him." - Martin Luther

SERMON NOTES:
