

# IMPLICATIONS OF JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE: IT DEMONSTRATES GOD'S LOVE

*Romans 5:6-11*

## Introduction: Review of Paul's Argument

### I. The Extravagance of God's Love (v.6)

#### A. The Object of God's Love: Sinners

- o Notice the language that describes whom Jesus saved: "weak" (v.6), "ungodly" (v.6), "sinners" (v.8), "enemies" (v.10)
- o Such love is unheard of: "one will scarcely die for a righteous person" (v.7)
- o Why doesn't this sort of love shock us as it should?

#### B. The Price of God's Love: Suffering of Jesus

- o Physical Death: "Christ died" (v.6), "Christ died" (v.8), Christ shed "blood" (v.9)
- o Separation from God: He endured "God's wrath" (v.9)

#### C. The Timing of God's Love: Before We Changed

- o God did not wait for our repentance before loving us
- o "while we were still weak" (v.6), "while we were sinners" (v.8)
- o If God loved you when you were at your worst, then why do you doubt his love now?

\*\*Key Point: Each of these aspects of God's love shows how extravagant it is. Each of these aspects should shock us!

### II. The Implications of God's Love (v.9-11)

#### A. We Will Be Saved Until the End (v.9-10)

- o Paul understands a common fear: Even if Christ saved us in the past, how do we know he will save us in the future, until the very end? Will I be Ok on judgment day?
- o Paul uses argument from the greater to the lesser: "if while we were enemies we were reconciled...much more now that we are reconciled shall we be saved through his life" (v.10).
  - If God gave us the greatest gift (Christ) will he not also give us the lesser (preserving us to the end)?

- o Paul reminds us that Christ is alive to intercede for us: "through his life"
- B. We Rejoice in Our Reconciliation to God (v.11)
- o "we have now *received reconciliation*" = the work of God in Christ (not our work) has repaired our broken relationship
  - o "He who is forgiven little, loves little." Luke 7:47

## Discussion Groups

1. What aspect of God's extravagant love stands out to you?

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2. How should this extravagant love of God that has been shown to you affect your human relationships? How should it affect your evangelism?

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3. How does this passage give you confidence that a true Christian will always be preserved to the very end?

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3. How does a deeper appreciation of your sinfulness give you a greater joy and love in your relationship with God? Which character are you like in the parable Jesus told in Luke 7?

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