



THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD.

As we continue through Romans, we land on Romans 1: 16-17.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. 17 For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

The gospel is the power of God that bring salvation. And salvation is so much more than a "get out of jail free" card for hell. Salvation comes from the root word, salve - an ointment to heal. Salvation is an ointment to heal our hearts, our shame, our past. In fact, salvation heals us so completely that we are made completely righteous - completely set right with God.

Does this mean our lives are perfect? Obviously not. But because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, *God* sees us as perfectly righteous. In fact, he looks at us and sees his Son.

The righteousness of God, ours through the gospel, breaks the hearts of those whose hearts are hard and heals the hearts of those whose hearts are broken. It is not just a message but a reality of forgiveness and life and family. And it's way too good to keep to ourselves.

IN THE BIBLE.

ROMANS 1:16-17

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ROMANS 1:16-17 from The Message

It's news I'm most proud to proclaim, this extraordinary Message of God's powerful plan to rescue everyone who trusts him, starting with Jews and then right on to everyone else! God's way of putting people right shows up in the acts of faith, confirming what Scripture has said all along: “The person in right standing before God by trusting him really lives.”

ROMANS 1:16-17 from The Voice

For I am not the least bit embarrassed about the gospel. I won't shy away from it, because it is God's power to save every person who believes: first the Jew, and then the non-Jew. 17 You see, in the good news, God's restorative justice is revealed. And as we will see, it begins with and ends in faith. As the Scripture declares, “By faith the just will obtain life.”

QUESTIONS.

Feel free to talk through some or all of these questions

- 1.) What sticks out to you in the verses above? What sticks out to you differently in each version?
- 2.) What is the gospel? How has it impacted you?
- 3.) What stops/slows you from sharing the gospel?
- 4.) How can you begin to share the good news in your daily life?

TAKE TEN:

- How did you see God work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here? (in your life/circumstance)
- How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?