

STUDYING THE BOOK OF ROMANS
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 6 - God's Faithfulness - [Romans 3:1-8](#)

Read the following verses in the Last Days Bible or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

God's Faithfulness

3 What's the advantage then of being a Jew? And what's the benefit of being circumcised?

2 There are all kinds of advantages! First of all, it was through the Jews that God gave His messages to mankind.

3 True, some in Israel refused to believe, but God's faithfulness certainly won't be cancelled out by their unbelief, will it?

4 Certainly not! In fact, God will keep His word even if every one of us is discovered to be a liar. As David wrote concerning God:

"It will indeed be proven that You spoke the truth, and You will be cleared of all charges when You are judged." (*Psa. 51:4*)

5 But if our sinning causes people to become more aware of how good God is, what about that? Isn't it then unfair of God to punish us? (I'm just repeating how some people reason.)

6 Certainly not! If that were so, how could God then judge the world?

7 Still others might argue, "If God's glory becomes more obvious when His truthfulness is contrasted with my lies, why then am I still condemned as a sinner?"

8 Well, if that's the case, we might as well say, "Let's live it up in sin so that good may come from it," as some falsely charge that we teach. Their condemnation is deserved.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 6 - God's Faithfulness - [Romans 3:1-8](#)

58. What is the advantage of being a Jew? ([3:1-2](#))

59. How did God show favor toward the Jews? ([3:1-2](#))

60. With what have Jews been entrusted? ([3:2](#))

61. How does failure to be true to God reflect on the character of God? ([3:3-4](#))

62. When we realize our own sinfulness, what do we learn about the character of God? ([3:5](#))
63. What brings out God's righteousness more clearly? ([3:5](#))
64. What was Paul's response to the charge that God is unjust in judging us? ([3:5](#))
65. What was Paul's human argument about the fairness of God's judgment of us? ([3:5-8](#))
66. How is God's character affected by the level of our sinfulness? ([3:7](#))
67. What false statement or teaching was being attributed to Paul? ([3:8](#))
68. Who did Paul say deserves condemnation? ([3:8](#))

Lesson 7- No One Is Righteous - [Romans 3:9-20](#)

We Are All Guilty

⁹What's the answer then? Are we Jews better than others? Not at all! We've already shown that Jews and all others are alike, under the firm grip of sin.

¹⁰As the Scriptures say:

“No one lives like he ought to, not even one person!

¹¹No one really understands, and not one earnestly searches for God.

¹²Every one of them has turned aside to other pursuits. All of them, together, have become worthless. None of them practice true goodness and kindness, not even one!” (*Psa. 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Eccl. 7:20*)

¹³”Their throats are like stinking, open graves, and snake poison is under their lips, from which their tongues discharge lies.” (*Psa. 5:9; 140:3*)

¹⁴”Their mouths are open, running sewers of curses and bitter cynicism.” (*Psa. 10:7*)

¹⁵”They murder for any reason.

¹⁶They leave a trail of ruin and misery wherever they go.

¹⁷They know nothing about pursuing peace.” (*Isa. 59:7-8*)

¹⁸”They have no real concern about respecting God or fearing Him.” (*Psa. 36:1*)

¹⁹Now we know that whatever God's Law says, it says to those who are under its authority. The result is that we find ourselves with absolutely no argument—because everyone in the whole world is found guilty before God.

²⁰And we can't become free of our guilt before God by obeying God's laws, *because God's laws can't cancel the sin we've committed*. They only reveal what we should be doing and haven't done.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 7- No One Is Righteous - [Romans 3:9-20](#)

69. How are Jews and Gentiles alike? ([3:9](#))
70. Who is righteous? ([3:10](#))
71. What is our natural tendency toward God? ([3:11](#))
72. What is the result of turning away from God? ([3:12](#))
73. What is human nature? ([3:12](#))
74. How do our conversations and speech reflect our sinful nature? ([3:13-14](#))
75. What are the characteristics of people who stand condemned before God? ([3:13-18](#))
76. What does God's law show us about ourselves? ([3:19](#))
77. What is the purpose of having God's law? ([3:19-20](#))
78. What reward does a person receive for observing the Law? ([3:20](#))
79. How would you explain this passage to a person who believes that he or she is good and not guilty of any serious sins?

Lesson 8 - Righteousness Through Faith - [Romans 3:21-31](#)

God's Way of Making People Right

²¹But now God's way of freeing people of guilt before Himself has been clearly revealed. It has nothing to do with obeying the Law, although the Law of Moses and the Prophets spoke about it.

²²We can now be made right with God by believing in Jesus Christ! Right standing with God is now available to everyone, and will be given to all who truly believe in Him.

²³Because there's no difference, for all of us have sinned, and we all fall far short of God's perfect standard and character.

²⁴But now we can all be made right with God because of what Christ Jesus did to redeem us. And it's a free gift—a favor from God that we don't deserve.

25-26 It was God who designed the plan to have Jesus make amends for us by suffering and shedding His blood for us on the cross, so that He could look upon us with kind approval when we believe and accept His gift by faith. He did this to show how altogether right, fair, just, and honorable He is. Although in the past God was tolerant, and left sin unpunished, He has now demonstrated His high standards of always doing what is altogether right—by being altogether just in dealing with our sin, and at the same time being the One who forgives all who come to Him, believing and trusting in Jesus. And God Himself declares that they now have right standing with Him.

27 So who can boast? No one! Boasting is excluded. Through what principle, then, can you be pardoned? Is it by some good works that you do? No, but by means of your faith in Jesus and what He did for you.

28 So we conclude that a person is declared to be in right standing with God by means of his faith, and not by obeying the Law.

29 Is God only the God of the Jews? Isn't He also the God of everyone else? Of course He is.

30 Since there's only one God, it is He who will bring Jews to right standing with Himself as a result of their faith, and everyone else to right standing by means of their faith.

31 Does faith make the law void? Not at all! We establish the law.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 8 - Righteousness Through Faith - [Romans 3:21-31](#)

80. What new righteousness has been made known? ([3:21](#))
81. What previous indication was there about the existence of the new righteousness? ([3:21](#))
82. What is the source of our righteousness? ([3:22](#))
83. How does a person obtain righteousness? ([3:22](#))
84. What heritage do you share with every person who has ever lived? ([3:23](#))
85. What justifies us in God's sight? ([3:24](#))
86. What is the cost or price of justification with God? ([3:24](#))

87. What did God do to provide a means of justification and forgiveness for every person? ([3:25](#))
88. How does providing Christ Jesus as a sacrifice demonstrate the justice of God? ([3:25-26](#))
89. On what basis can a person brag about his or her righteousness? ([3:27](#))
90. What justifies a person in God's sight? ([3:28](#))
91. What is the relationship between having faith and observing the Law? ([3:29-31](#))
92. What makes it difficult for many of us to believe that we can gain God's forgiveness by faith in Christ alone?
93. Why would God offer His righteousness free to every person?