**Theological Foundations for Leadership (TFL)**
Creekstone Church • Spring 2011

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Session #6 — Justification

## I. THE MEANING OF JUSTIFICATION

1. Justification is a _____ term.
2. Galatians 3:10-14

   ***10*** *For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."* ***11*** *Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."* ***12*** *But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."* ***13*** *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us--for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"--* ***14*** *so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.*

3. The Westminster Shorter Catechism's definition is helpful.

   Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he _____ all our sins, and _____ us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ _____ to us, and received by _____ alone.

4. Heidelberg Catechism, Question 60.

   Q: How are you right with God?
   A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.
   Even though my conscience accuses me
   of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments
   and of never having kept any of them,
   and even though I am still inclined toward all evil,
   nevertheless,
   without my deserving it at all,
   out of sheer grace,
   God grants and credits to me
   the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ,
   as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner,
   as if I had been as perfectly obedient
   as Christ was obedient for me.

## II. THE GREAT EXCHANGE

1. 2 Corinthians 5:21

   ***21*** *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

2. The A+ for the F illustration.
3. The two essential components of justification are _____ and _____.
4. My contribution to my justification is my _____.

## III. THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW

1. Romans 3:20

   ***20*** *Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.*

2. Galatians 3:24

   ***24*** *So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.*

## IV. A PERPETUAL DANGER

1. Galatians 1:6-10

   ***6*** *I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel-* ***7*** *not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.* ***8*** *But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.* ***9*** *As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.* ***10*** *For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.*

2. The "religious flesh" will always tend to base one's justification on one's _____.
3. There are a number of red flags that indicate we are in danger of making the tragic reversal of the gospel:
   (1) _____
   (2) _____
   (3) _____

## V. A BULLDOG FAITH

1. We are told to "_____ _____" to the gospel.
   (1) 1 Corinthians 15:1-2

   ***1*** *Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,* ***2*** *and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you--unless you believed in vain.*

   (2) Hebrews 10:23

   ***23*** *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.*

2. Beware of doing _____, which is a cheap substitute for repentance.
3. Martin Luther spoke of having to preach this doctrine to ourselves and each other on a regular/daily basis.

## VI. THE ONLY TWO OPTIONS

1. _____-righteousness
2. _____-righteousness

## VII. Q & A