

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Believe and Confess

Passage: Romans 10:1-10

Introduction: John said the call of this passage is to believe in Jesus and confess that belief with words. Believe in your heart—the control center of your life (mind, will, desires, emotions)—and confess with your mouth. Those who do so will receive salvation. This means that salvation is for those who trust in Jesus alone for their salvation and follow Him as the Lord of their life.

John said Paul points to the urgency of this decision to trust and follow Jesus for three reasons:

1. Because Paul wants his hearers saved from judgment day.
2. Because *achieving* righteousness is impossible
3. But *receiving* righteousness is possible.

Additional passages: Matthew 5; Romans 3:21-26; Galatians 2:11-16, 3:10-14; Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18

Questions:

1. Based on Romans 10:1, what should the attitude of Christians be towards non-Christians? Who are the messengers who carry the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ?
2. John noted that God's sovereignty over salvation and all of life was a comfort and encouragement to Paul and fueled his desire to evangelize. Does God's sovereignty have that effect in your life? Why could it have that effect?
3. The Jews had the laws of God from birth and had learned from God's Word from their earliest age. They were not lacking in knowledge of God's law. Yet, God says the Jews were ignorant about how one can be declared righteous by God (10:3 "righteousness of God"). What about the Jews' religion was deficient?
4. Leviticus 18:5 and James 2:10 say that the person who does the law shall live by the law – shall be declared righteous by God. Considering the extent of what it means to keep the law (Matthew 5) who can say they pass this test?
5. Read Romans 10:4-5. What do these verses teach about how someone other than Jesus can be righteous in God's eyes?
6. What do Romans 3:21-26, Ephesians 2:1-10 and 1 Peter 3:18 teach about how a just and holy God can both punish unrighteousness and save sinners?
7. Spend some time thanking God for the salvation He has made available through Jesus.