

# The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

1/21/18

**Text: Romans 5:1-11 (ESV)**

**Title: Peaced Together**

**Teacher: Shayne Bass**

## **Surrender through Prayer:**

*Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.*

## **Engage with the Sermon**

*Read the passage together*

In his sermon, Shayne Bass led us through the opening 4 chapters of Romans 4 that set the scene for the beginning of Chapter 5, and God's amazing grace and love to Justify us by faith. As Shayne said, if we were all honest, we would have to deal with the absolute gross and offensive reality of our sin. We cannot hide our sin and shame behind our lies and manipulation, or behind the good works we try to achieve. We were enemies of God, deserving His wrath. But God, in the face of our bleak circumstances, makes peace with us because of the work of Jesus. And so we have an amazing peace and access to God, a beautiful hope that despite our weakness God will be merciful, and a life devoted to Him in response to His grace for us.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. *Shayne began by confessing his gross nasty sins of lying, perversion and anger. As he said, we stand before God utterly hopeless and unqualified to do anything but receive His wrath. Like the law-abiding Jews, we not only commit the gross nasty sins, but we judge others for committing them as well.*
  - ***Who are the first people to come to mind when you hear the phrase, "gross, nasty sinner"?***
  - ***How have you sinned in the exact same way?***
  
2. *As Shayne said, our situation is bleak, and we are filled with anxiety and worry, But God offers us His peace through Jesus.*
  - ***What circumstance, either internally or externally, is currently feeling hopeless or futile in your life?***
  - ***In what areas do you try to do better or sin less, rather than resting in Jesus and putting your faith in his finished work for you?***
  
3. *If our faith is in Jesus, because of His finished work for us, we have an amazing Access to God, not as a visitor or stranger, but as a child, ushered into his presence and given a hope greater than anything else in this world.*
  - ***Where do you need to draw closer to God, and ask Him to increase your faith?***
  - ***What practices or disciplines do you need God to develop in you to help you rest in him?***

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## **WORSHIP AND PRAYER:**

### **A.C.T.S.**

*(Spend time in prayer and worship as a group as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart during your discussion.)*

#### **1. ADORATION (The Father)**

***Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions***

#### **2. CONFESSION (Me)**

***Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited***

#### **3. THANKSGIVING (Jesus)**

***Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)***

#### **4. SUPPLICATION (Holy Spirit)**

***Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways***

#### **5. Prepare for Gospel Community (My Neighbor)**

***Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.***

### **Prayer Items**

- 1. Worship the LORD for His perfect peace! Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He has personally satisfied His wrath and ended our struggle for peace.*
- 2. Do you live as though God is still angry toward you? In what ways do you rely upon your own efforts to make Him happy? Confess your failure to rest in His completed work of reconciliation, remember His forgiveness and ask Him to grant you an awareness of your access to the grace in which you stand, by faith.*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for His relentless pursuit of being one with you. Recall the times and ways in your life that you have experienced the work of the Spirit to give you peace that passed understanding in the face of your own brokenness and the brokenness of this world.*
- 4. Consider that Christ granted peace, access to grace, hope, and complete reconciliation to sinners and enemies. In which relationships is it most difficult for you to live in that way toward others? Ask the Lord to love people that way through you.*
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew in you the desire to take advantage of your access to grace and to develop your reconciled relationship with Him, in daily practices such as Bible reading, prayer, family worship, etc.*