

October 12th, 2025

Two Representatives
Romans 5:12-21

Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. ²⁰The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
-Romans 5:18-21

The gospel reframes _____.

OVERVIEW

- The problem is simplified: _____.
5:12 (cf. Gen. 3)
- The law is revisited: no one is blameless. 5:13
(cf. Rom. 3; Gal. 2:11-21)
- The solution is significant: Jesus takes on _____.
5:14-19 (cf. Isa. 53:5-6; Mark 8:31; 2 Cor. 5:19-21)

The Gospel reframes blame so that:

We can get past our _____ (see the _____ story). Phil. 2:1-14; 4:1-9

Grace can _____ (let grace have _____).
Rom. 5:20-21

We can get moving (join God's reconciling mission).
2 Cor. 5:14-6:1; Col.1

TALK IT OVER

Because we believe that the sharing of our ideas and beliefs enhances our spiritual growth in ways teaching alone cannot - we encourage you to join a small group at Sunridge and discuss some of the following questions.

What stood out most in the message to you regarding something you learned, challenged you, or disagreed with? And, in what ways can you see these truths being lived out in your relationships this week?

Relate to the Jewish and Gentile Christians who were in the thick of relational and communal conflict, and the "Would you rather" posed in the message: "Would you rather keep fighting or be reconciled with one another in Christ?" When you're in conflict, why is it so hard to choose reconciliation right away?

Reflect on blame. Why is blaming others such a natural instinct? Why is being blamed so difficult to accept?

Jokingly but seriously, we can summarize Paul's pass as "Blame Adam." How does remembering that all our conflicts and struggles stem from a shared history alter the way we perceive our present situations?

Read one or more of these passages: Romans 5:15-19, 2 Corinthians 5:14-6:1, and Colossians 1:15-23. What comes to mind when you read that God is "reconciling all things in Christ"?

The Roman Christians were essentially involved in church drama. How does our perspective need to change so that we don't miss the bigger mission God has for us? Why do you think church communities struggle so much with this?

What would it mean for grace to reign or have dominion in your life? In your relationships? In our church? What would it look like to take one step with God in that movement this week?



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The gospel reframes BLAME.

OVERVIEW

- The problem is simplified: BLAME ADAM. 5:12 (cf. Gen. 3)
- The law is revisited: no one is blameless. 5:13 (cf. Rom. 3; Gal. 2:11-21)
- The solution is significant: Jesus takes on THE BLAME. 5:14-19 (cf. Isa. 53:5-6; Mark 8:31; 2 Cor. 5:19-21)

The Gospel reframes blame so that:

We can get past our DRAMA (see the BIGGER story). Phil. 2:1-14; 4:1-9

Grace can REIGN (let grace have DOMINION).
Rom. 5:20-21

We can get moving (join God's reconciling mission).
2 Cor. 5:14-6:1; Col. 1

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