

In the first step of discipling a new Christian, we want to help people know who Jesus is and in turn know who we are. This is part of our vision, and perhaps best understood by knowing what Jesus has done for you and what that means. Paul in writing to the Romans explains that every person is guilty of sin. Neither knowing God's law nor trying to do good can make anyone right with God. Romans 3:21–31 marks a great turning point. Paul announces that God has provided a new way for sinners to be made right with him: through faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus died as the sacrifice for sin, showing both God's justice and mercy. Salvation is therefore a free gift of grace, not something earned by obeying rules. This leaves no room for pride and opens the way of knowing Jesus and who we are because of him.

Imagine life worked like a points card. Help someone: +10. Lose your temper: -5. Tell a lie: -10. Do something kind: +5. How would it feel if you were always trying to keep your "God score" high?

Read the whole of Romans 3

1. What do the words "But now" in v21 tell us has changed?
2. What changes when a person is made right with God? Romans 3:21–22; Philippians 3:8-9
3. Paul says that the Law and the Prophets testify to this righteousness. Where can we see this message in the Old Testament and why does it matter? See Genesis 15:6; Isaiah 53:4–6; Habakkuk 2:4.
4. What does verse 23 teach about every human being?

5. What is the difference between saying "I did something wrong" and saying "I am a failure"?
6. What does it mean to be made right with God "freely by his grace"? Romans 3:24; Ephesians 2:8–9. How does this change your identity?
7. What is easier for you: receiving a gift, or feeling you have to earn things?
8. According to verses 24–25, how would you describe to someone what Jesus' death achieved? See Isaiah 53:5–6; 1 John 2:1–2.
9. Why is the shedding of Jesus' blood important for forgiveness? Why can't God just forgive? See Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22; 1 Peter 2:24.
10. How does the cross show that God is both just and the one who justifies sinners? See Romans 3:26; 2 Corinthians 5:21.
11. Read Romans 5:1. What do you think "peace with God" might feel like or mean in real life?
12. In v27-28. Why is not 'boasting' important in the Christian faith? What would our faith look like, if 'boasting' were a reality?
13. In v31, Paul says that faith does not cancel the law but upholds it. What might this mean, and how should faith in Christ change the way you live this week? See Matthew 5:17; Romans 8:3–4; Romans 13:8–10.

Prayer Points

Pray for the young people's work, for the teams that make everything happen. Pray for the young people to grow and come to faith in Jesus.

Pray for the people of Iran as they hope for freedom from fear and release from oppression, both from their own government and from other countries.

Sermon Notes



BIBLE STUDY

September 27th 2026

'From the Street to the Table'

Made Right
Romans 3

Jesus calls His followers to "make disciples" and to teach them to obey everything He has commanded (Matthew 28:19–20). Where do you start with someone who is new to the faith? How do we engage with people in the first place? Discipleship is a lifelong process, not something we complete (Philippians 1:6). The goal is to become increasingly like Jesus, growing in love, holiness and maturity (Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18), while encouraging and helping others to follow Him too. How does that happen in our church? This series maps out a simple understanding for how we make disciples as a church, not just new Christians, but throughout our lives.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001