



Sermon Discussion Questions

"The Heart of the Gospel"

Romans 3:9-31

September 4, 2016

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Openers:

How close have you come to getting in trouble with the law? What happened in your conscience; how did you feel?

What do you remember about the last sermon -- what stood out to you most? Why?

Questions:

[The following questions are meant to supplement the sermon, to try and offer further points of interaction with the selected text. Feel free to ask your group your own questions regarding the sermon or text].

1. What might the impressions be of people who are non-Christian regarding the law or the Ten Commandments? Good? Bad? Useful today? Useless today?

How might people, non-Christian or Christian, define "sin" in today's society?

2. In verses 10-18, what is said regarding human thought, direction, speech, and action?

How would you reconcile the statements in verses 10-18 with the fact that some people who are non-Christian do seem to seek God and lead exemplary lives?

3. According to verses 19-20, what is the purpose of the law?

4. What is the "righteousness from God" (vv 21-22)?

5. How was Jesus able to fulfill the law?

Application:

6. What speaks to you in this passage? What questions does it raise for you? Discuss.

7. How might this passage contribute to the removal of conflicts or misunderstandings between people groups you know?

8. Martin Luther, John Wesley, Karl Barth--- This passage changed their lives ... and world history. How is the "heart of the gospel" impacting your life this season?

Take some time to pray together, perhaps in silence this time. Ask God to renew your faith and understanding in the truth of God's rescue of you in Jesus Christ.

*These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996) and *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).