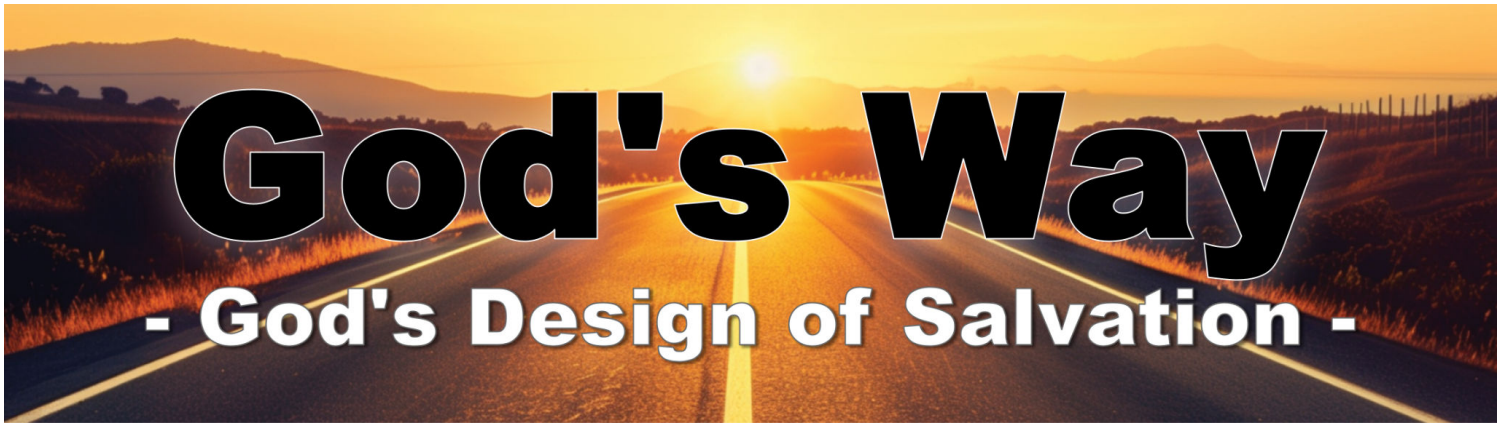



Week of May 17, 2026 - The Righteous Will Live by Faith | Small Group Lesson 2

## Connect

Share about a time in your life when you were persistently pursuing a certain plan or goal, but every door seemed to stay closed. As you look back now, how do you see the Lord's hand in preventing that path for a greater purpose? What did that experience teach you about trusting His timing?

## Verses - Romans 1:8-17 (CSB)

**Read aloud:**

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you because the news of your faith is being reported in all the world. 9 God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in telling the good news about his Son — that I constantly mention you, 10 always asking in my prayers that if it is somehow in God's will, I may now at last succeed in coming to you. 11 For I want very much to see you, so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, 12 that is, to be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. 13 Now I don't want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I often planned to come to you (but was prevented until now ) in order that I might have a fruitful ministry among you, just as I have had among the rest of the Gentiles. 14 I am obligated both to Greeks and barbarians, both to the wise and the foolish. 15 So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith.

**Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?**

# Study

**Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:**

1. According to vv.8-12, what is Paul's attitude toward the Roman believers? What is the specific goal of his visit, and how does this contrast with a *knowledge-only* type of discipleship?

2. In vv.14-15, Paul describes himself as *obligated* (*in debt*) to all people. Based on the context, what has been entrusted to Paul that makes him feel this sense of debt toward others?

3. According to v.16, where exactly does *God's power* for salvation reside? And what is required for a human response?

4. V.17 states that "the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith." How do we obtain this righteousness, and what does it mean to *live by faith* rather than by a behavioral checklist?

# Share

**Discuss 1:**
Pastor Takeshi used the Pharisee and the Tax Collector to show that we are only justified because we rely 100% on God's mercy. Have you ever felt like a "better" (or "worse") Christian based on your performance? How does knowing we are all equally dependent on Grace change how you view others this week?

**Discuss 2:**
Paul felt a deep responsibility to share the Gospel because he had been entrusted with a life-saving treasure. How does seeing that sharing your faith as a payment into our *debt of love to Jesus* change your motivation compared to seeing it as a religious duty?

**Minister to one another through PRAYER sharing specific prayer requests.**