

Week of July 12, 2026 - God is Righteous

Small Group Lesson 8

Connect

Have you ever been entrusted with something valuable or important (like a family heirloom, a big secret, or a special item for work)? How did being entrusted with it make you feel? Did you treat it differently than your own belongings?

Verses - Romans 3:1-8 (CSB)

Read aloud:

1 So what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the benefit of circumcision?

2 Considerable in every way. First, they were entrusted with the very words of God.

3 What then? If some were unfaithful, will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? 4 Absolutely not! Let God be true, even though everyone is a liar, as it is written: That you may be justified in your words and triumph when you judge. 5 But if our unrighteousness highlights God's righteousness, what are we to say? I am using a human argument: Is God unrighteous to inflict wrath? 6 Absolutely not! Otherwise, how will God judge the world? 7 But if by my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I also still being judged as a sinner? 8 And why not say, just as some people slanderously claim we say, "Let us do what is evil so that good may come"? Their condemnation is deserved!

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.1-2, what question does Paul ask about the Jews and circumcision, and what is the primary advantage he says they were given?

2. In vv.3-4, how does human unfaithfulness affect God's faithfulness? According to the quoted scripture, what is the ultimate truth about God's words and His judgments?

3. What twisted human argument is presented in v.5 regarding our unrighteousness and God's wrath? How does Paul answer this argument in v.6?

4. According to vv.7-8, what false accusation was being made against Paul's teaching? What does Paul conclude about those who make this argument?

Share

Discuss 1:
Pastor Takeshi warned against letting consequences determine our morals (e.g., "tell the truth, for they are going to find out anyway") rather than anchoring our actions in our relationship with God. Why is it dangerous to base our obedience simply to avoid bad consequences? How does nurturing a "circumcised heart" change our true motivation for obeying God's Word?

Discuss 2:
Pastor Takeshi mentioned the movie Indiana Jones, where people searched for the "holy grail" believing it would give them eternal life. He contrasted the movie with the Bible, which contains God’s plan towards eternal life. How does this perspective change how you view your own Bible reading? Are you truly treating Scripture as the "very expression of the mind of God"?

Minister to one another through PRAYER sharing specific prayer requests.