

LG | Leader

[Romans 3:21-31]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

It is likely that everyone present had a very busy day, maybe even a trying day. Let's take a moment to still our minds and go to the Lord in prayer.

- Without looking, what are the 10 commandments?
- This is Thanksgiving week. What are you grateful for?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. Why should we know the 10 commandments (The Law)?

The 10 commandments are the foundation for the over 600 commands given in the first 5 books of the Bible; this known collectively, as the law. These commands were given by God to Israel so that they could show the world what God is like and also provide a way for Israel to know their sin. When Jesus arrives in the New Testament, Jesus displayed the law by loving God and loving others perfectly, thus fulfilling the law. In order to know the beauty of Jesus, we have to first know and understand the "weight" of the law. Jesus communicated that the law is not just a list of dos and don'ts, but rather a matter of the heart.

2. What is justification? When the Bible says that we are not justified by the law, what does that mean?

Justification is when God declares that someone is in right relationship with Him. More specifically, to be justified is to be declared righteous. While obedience is important and absolutely necessary, following the commands of the Lord or "being a good person" does not save us, rather faith in Jesus is what saves us.

3. Read Romans 3:21-31. This a crucial passage in the Bible. How might you put this text in your own words, stated simply? [Maybe try to summarize each verse or break it down into smaller sections] [Example: When we place our faith in Jesus, we receive God's gift of grace (Grace is NOT getting what we deserve – punishment for our sins). There is nothing I can do to earn God's grace but to

believe upon His Son Jesus Christ. Believing in Jesus means that I am declared righteous before God.]

4. If someone were to tell you that Christians are no longer under the law, but under grace (antinomianism)? How might you respond?

[By gracefully speaking the truth in love]. You are correct in that we are not justified by the law, therefore we are no longer “under the law.” However, Jesus established the moral law in our hearts and we are to uphold it, according to Romans 3:31.

5. How do the 10 commandments display God’s grace?

God sent His one and only Son to do what the law could not do, save us from our sin (Romans 8:3).

6. How has your view of the 10 commandments changed over the last 10 weeks?

[Dialogue]

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.