

5. Should God's righteousness terrify or comfort us? Why?

6. How does God's salvific healing extend beyond God-human relationships to also include the relationships among human beings?

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

"The Face of the Gospel"
Romans 1:16-17

1. From 'what is the Gospel?' to 'who is the Gospel?' (Rom. 1:2-6)

- The Apostle Paul had a nuanced understanding of the Gospel. He understood the gospel as an embodiment: the gospel has a bodily form. Jesus is Gospel!

- Jesus is the face of God's gospel.

- 'Face' in this context means a representation by embodiment. Jesus is the content of the Gospel.

2. Gospel withstands embarrassment (Rom. 1:16-17)

- To be ashamed of the Gospel is to refuse to give the Gospel the freedom to become good news to all people.

- To be ashamed of the Gospel is to fail to acknowledge that the Gospel always produces a 'surplus' that will overflow church and theological boundaries.

3. Reasons not to be ashamed of the Gospel (Rom. 1:16-17)

- The Gospel is an expression of God's salvation (1:16)
- The Gospel is an expression of God's uprightness (1:17)
- The Gospel refocuses our faith on God (1:17; see also Habakuk 2:4)

Family Discussion Questions

The Kid's Ministry lesson this weekend is based on Isaiah 12 and has a Thanksgiving theme.

1. How can our family make our faith community a priority in our lives?
2. What are some ways God has worked in our family's life?
3. List some reasons our family has for praising God. How can we praise and give thanks to God for each of these things?

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Why is it so hard to bounce back from big failures?
3. Read Romans 1:1-17. The word "gospel" occurs 6 times in the NIV. What do you learn about the gospel from this passage?
4. In your experience, what are some possible reasons Christians may be ashamed of the gospel in this era?