IMPLICATIONS OF JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE: IT DEMONSTRATES GOD’S LOVE

Romans 5:6-11

Introduction: Review of Paul’s Argument

I. The Extravagance of God’s Love (v.6)
   A. The Object of God’s Love: Sinners
      o Notice the language that describes whom Jesus saved: “weak” (v.6), “ungodly” (v.6), “sinners” (v.8), “enemies” (v.10)
      o Such love is unheard of: “one will scarcely die for a righteous person” (v.7)
      o Why doesn’t this sort of love shock us as it should?
   B. The Price of God’s Love: Suffering of Jesus
      o Physical Death: “Christ died” (v.6), “Christ died” (v.8), Christ shed “blood” (v.9)
      o Separation from God: He endured “God’s wrath” (v.9)
   C. The Timing of God’s Love: Before We Changed
      o God did not wait for our repentance before loving us
      o “while we were still weak” (v.6), “while we were sinners” (v.8)
      o If God loved you when you were at your worst, then why do you doubt his love now?

**Key Point: Each of these aspects of God’s love shows how extravagant it is. Each of these aspects should shock us!**

II. The Implications of God’s Love (v.9-11)
   A. We Will Be Saved Until the End (v.9-10)
      o Paul understands a common fear: Even if Christ saved us in the past, how do we know he will save us in the future, until the very end? Will I be Ok on judgment day?
      o Paul uses argument from the greater to the lesser: “if while we were enemies we were reconciled…much more now that we are reconciled shall we be saved through his life” (v.10).
      - If God gave us the greatest gift (Christ) will he not also give us the lesser (preserving us to the end)?
Paul reminds us that Christ is alive to intercede for us: “through his life”

B. We Rejoice in Our Reconciliation to God (v.11)

- “we have now received reconciliation” = the work of God in Christ (not our work) has repaired our broken relationship
- “He who is forgiven little, loves little.” Luke 7:47
Discussion Groups

1. What aspect of God’s extravagant love stands out to you?

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2. How should this extravagant love of God that has been shown to you affect your human relationships? How should it affect your evangelism?

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3. How does this passage give you confidence that a true Christian will always be preserved to the very end?

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3. How does a deeper appreciation of your sinfulness give you a greater joy and love in your relationship with God? Which character are you like in the parable Jesus told in Luke 7?

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