

## NBBC Adult Sunday School Lesson Sunday, March 22, 2020

**Note:** This lesson can be engaged with older children and with teens in your home. If you live alone, you might want to call a friend and ask them to watch the lesson and work through it while you do. Talking with someone during the lesson, about the lesson 😊, is highly encouraged.

This lesson guide is designed to accompany the video that is available through the link that was included in the email to which this guide was attached. The video is designed for viewing on Sunday morning prior to the worship service that will be streamed live at 10:30 a.m., but it can be watched at any time. (The worship service will be streamed live, so you must connect during that streaming to be part of it.)

Today's lesson will serve as a supplement to the lesson that is found in the *Explore the Bible* quarterly, which addresses Romans 3:21-4:3. This is not intended to be a lesson on that passage and will not follow the quarterly, but we are using that passage as a beginning point. We know that some classes do not use the quarterlies, and if you are in one of those classes, you still will be perfectly able to engage this lesson. Print this out, if you can, but you can follow the video without this guide. All you need today is a Bible and a heart turned toward Jesus, our ***Righteousness***.

So start the video when you are ready, and let's begin! Open your Bibles to the Book of Romans, chapter 3. We will read Scripture together in the video. You can pause the video at any time to look up a passage, to discuss a point, to answer a question, or to go back to hear something again.

### Righteousness

The Hebrew word in the Old Testament for *righteous* is *Tzedeq* or *Tzedequah*.

The Greek word in the New Testament for *righteous* is *Dikaiosuné*.

(Do not worry about pronouncing them! 😊)

Think about these words, about the biblical understanding of righteousness, knowing that these words are closely related to other words like: *straightness, evenness, justice, and truth*.

Righteousness of God—Write a definition here for the righteousness of God. \_\_\_\_\_

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Turn to Matthew 6:33.

“Seek” means \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Greek word for “first” is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Question:** What is it we want most out of life?

**Question:** What is it we *should* want most out of life?

**Question:** Why did Jesus come to earth?

Read Romans 3:24-26. Focus in on verse 26. “To demonstrate . . . His righteousness.”

Look up 2 Corinthians 5:21. (Also see Romans 14:17.)

Write here why Jesus came to earth: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Back to Romans 3:21-22.

### Righteousness Through Law and Righteousness Through Faith

Two ways out of sin and back to righteousness (to God): by keeping the law and by faith.

The righteousness of God is being revealed, to all who “are faithing,” through faith in Jesus Christ.

So what is being revealed through faith? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Romans 1:16-17.

What is bringing salvation to all who “are faithing?” \_\_\_\_\_

What is the “power of God” to all who “are faithing?” \_\_\_\_\_

While we are here, what is the “gospel?” It has three parts.

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All of us have sinned (failed to keep the law) and our sin has separated us from God eternally. (Romans 3:23)

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God loves us in this way: He gave Himself, Jesus, unto death, for our holiness and righteousness, that we might be separated from Him no longer. (John 3:16)

If we continually agree with God out loud with our mouths that Jesus is Lord, and if we continually “faith” in our hearts, affecting all of our decisions, that God raised Jesus from the dead, we will be forgiven for our sin and cleansed of our wickedness and will receive eternal life with God. (Romans 10:9-10)

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God raised Jesus from being physically dead, and Jesus has ascended, gone to prepare a place for us “are faithing” in Him, that where He is eternally, there we will be also. Jesus is the way to eternal life, not our good works or our own righteousness, but Jesus and the righteousness of God. (John 14:1-6)

Now read and talk about 1 Corinthians 15:50-58.

As we close, let’s think about the Kingdom of God. A kingdom requires a king. And a king rules absolutely, without contradiction.

Read Hebrews 1:8.

God rules “forever and ever” with a *scepter* of righteousness.

A scepter is a symbol of the king’s power and authority. God’s power and authority forever issues forth in righteousness—straightness, evenness, rightness, justness, trueness.

Now read Genesis 49:10.

Jacob is blessing Judah and prophesying of Jesus, who was born of the Tribe of Judah, through the Holy Spirit. The scepter shall never depart from Judah because the scepter of righteousness will forever be in Jesus' hand.

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-16.

Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords. He rules the kings, and He rules the lords. He is over all and rules all. He is the only *Sovereign*, the only ruler over all of creation.

Wow! That is great! But look in verse 11. You and I are commanded to pursue (seek, desire, want) some things.

Write here the first thing in the list: \_\_\_\_\_

Now read again Matthew 6:33.

Why did Jesus come to earth?

Why have we been left on earth?

Write here who it is that we serve and obey: \_\_\_\_\_

NOW...Back to the *Righteousness of God*.

At the beginning, we wrote a definition of the righteousness of God and what Paul meant. But through this lesson, perhaps we can see that the righteousness of God is not just a thing or a standard or a behavior or even an attitude, but the *Righteousness of God* is a person.

As the last thing we do today, write here the name of the person who is the *Righteousness of God*.

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