

Welcome to Equip K-Groups!

Overcomers Class

Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

(1 John 5:5)

Welcome and Agenda

- **Announcements**
- **Prayer**
- **Class Content Schedule – Where are we?**
- **Romans: The Subjects of the Kingdom – Part 1**

Announcements & Prayer

Third Semester Schedule – Q1 2019



<u>Handout</u>	<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Text</u>
✓	1	7-Jul	Acts
	2	14-Jul	Acts
	3	21-Jul	Acts
✓	4	28-Jul	Intro to Paul
✓	5	4-Aug	Romans
	6	11-Aug	Romans
	7	18-Aug	Romans
✓	8	25-Aug	1 Corinthians
	9	1-Sep	1 Corinthians
	10	8-Sep	1 Corinthians
✓	11	15-Sep	2 Corinthians
	12	22-Sep	2 Corinthians
	13	29-Sep	2 Corinthians

Romans

The Subjects of the Kingdom

Equip “Overcomers” K-Group

Q3 2019

Class 5

The Heartbeat of Paul

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

(1 Timothy 1:15–17 ESV)

Romans – *Influence and Importance*

- **Notable Romans-influenced Conversions**

- **Augustine** (Rom. 13:13-14), **Martin Luther** (Rom. 1:17), **John Wesley**

- **Notable Quotes**

- **Martin Luther** – “It is the chief part of the New Testament and the perfect gospel . . . the absolute epitome of the gospel” “The clearest gospel of all”
- **Philip Melancthon** – “The compendium of Christian doctrine”
- **John Calvin** – “When anyone understands this Epistle, he has a passage opened to him to the understanding of the whole Scripture.”
- **Leon Morris** – “God is the most important word in this epistle. Romans is a book about God. No topic is treated with anything like the frequency of God. Everything Paul touches in this letter he relates to God. In our concern to understand what the apostle is saying about righteousness, justification, and the like we ought not to overlook his tremendous concentration on God. There is nothing like it elsewhere.” (*The Epistle to the Romans*, 40)

Epistle Background

Author	Paul (Tertius, 16:22)
Date	AD 57 (Near end of 3 rd Missionary Journey)
Where Written	Corinth
Audience	Church in Rome (Jews and Gentiles)
Theme	Justification
Key Verse	Romans 3:23-24

“[For] all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus”

(Romans 3:23-24)

Romans – Outline

Section	Context	Notable
Ch. 1-3:20	<u>Condemnation:</u> The Need of God's Righteousness	Wrath of God, Lack of Reverence and Gratitude, All Sinners, No One Seeks God
Chs. 3:21-5:21	<u>Justification:</u> The Provision of God's Righteousness	Justified by Grace through Faith in Christ, Abraham's Example, Death in Adam, Life in Christ
Chs. 6:1-8:39	<u>Sanctification:</u> The Demonstration of God's Righteousness	Dead to Sin, Dead to the Law, Life in the Spirit, Heirs, Predestination and Preservation
Chs. 9:1-11:36	<u>Restoration:</u> Israel's Reception of God's Righteousness	Divine Sovereignty, Gentiles Blessed, Israel's Unbelief and Future, Shared "Olive Tree"
Chs. 12:1-16:27	<u>Application:</u> The Behavior of God's Righteousness	Living Sacrifice, Love Fulfilling Law, Mutual Upbuilding, Christ's Example

The “Roman Road”

The Pathway to and Blessings of Justification

ROAD

- 3:23 “[A]ll have sinned and fall short of God’s Glory” (cf. 14:23)
- 6:23 “[T]he wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”
- 5:8 “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us”
- 10:9 “[I]f you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved”

RESULTS

- 10:13 “[E]veryone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved”
- 5:1 “[W]e have peace with God”
- 8:1 “[N]o condemnation”
- 8:15 “[Y]ou have received the Spirit of Adoption as sons”
- 8:38-39 “[Nothing] can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord”

Justification – *Importance*

- **Martin Luther:** ([Comments on Galatians 2:11, Qtd in Piper, p. 13](#))
 - “[Justification is] the chief article of Christian Doctrine. To him who understands how great its usefulness and majesty are, everything else will seem slight and turn to nothing. . . . Therefore if you see this article impugned or imperiled, do not hesitate to resist Peter or an angel from heaven; for it cannot be sufficiently extolled.”
- **John Piper:** ([Counted Righteous in Christ, Crossway Books 2002, p. 14](#))
 - “[T]he glory of Christ is the most precious reality in the universe, and it is obscured when the doctrine of justification is lost or blurred for the people of God and the mission of the church.”

Justification – *Definition*

- **Justification:** (Millard J. Erickson, [Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology](#), Baker Book House 1986)
 - In the doctrine of salvation, the declaration that the human has been restored to a state of righteousness in God's sight.
- **Justification by Faith:** (Millard J. Erickson, [Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology](#), Baker Book House 1986)
 - Declaration that the person has been restored to a state of righteousness on the basis of belief and trust in the work of Christ rather than on the basis of one's own accomplishment
- **Justification:** (Louis Berkhof, [Systematic Theology](#), (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing 1941, p. 513)
 - It is unique in the application of the work of redemption in that it is a judicial act of God, a declaration respecting the sinner, and not an act or process of renewal, such as regeneration, conversion, and sanctification

How can I get/be right with God?

The Dilemma and the Declaration



- **The Dilemma for Man (Rom. 3:10-20)**

- Justification* ▪ Absolute Accountability to God (Creator, Ruler, and Judge)... cf. Rom. 1:18-20
- Regeneration* ▪ Absolute Moral Corruption
- Regeneration* ▪ Absolute Inability to Seek or to Reconcile with God
- Justification* ▪ Absolute Guilt under God's Law

- **The Declaration that Solves the Dilemma (Rom. 3:21-26)**

- *But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

Justification – Calvin’s Comment

- **John Calvin:** (*Institutes of the Christian Religion*, ed. John T. McNeill, The Westminster Press 1960, Book 3, Chapter 11, p. 727)
 - “[W]e explain justification simply as the acceptance with which God receives us into his favor as righteous men. And we say that it consists in the remission of sins and the imputation of Christ’s righteousness.”
- **“The Great Exchange”** (*John Piper devotional, <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/the-great-exchange>*)
 - “We need righteousness to be acceptable to God. But we don’t have it. What we have is sin. . . God lays our sins on Christ and punishes them in him. And in Christ’s obedient death, God fulfills and vindicates his righteousness and imputes (credits) it to us. Our sin on Christ; his righteousness on us. . . We can hardly stress too much that Christ is God’s answer to our greatest problem. It is all owing to Christ.