

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8



What's one small thing that instantly makes you feel "at home"?
(A smell, food, song, place, routine, person, etc.)

1. In Romans 5:6 Paul describes us as "powerless" or helpless, how would you explain what that means?
 - How is that different to simply saying we make mistakes?
 - Keep those thoughts in mind and discuss John 15:5 and Isaiah 64:6.
2. Read Romans 5:6-8, when does these verses say that Christ died for us?
 - How does this challenge the idea that we need to get better or improve ourselves before coming to God?
 - In what subtle ways do people still try to 'earn' God's approval today? (reference Ephesians 2:8-9)
3. The message said that sin isn't just breaking God's rules, it's living a life like you don't need Him. Are you guilty of living like that?
 - How does this help your understanding of sin in our daily lives?
 - How do the following passages provide direction/guidance? Proverbs 3:5-6, Romans 14:23.
 - What does it look like practically to apply these passages to your life?

4. Paul calls us enemies of God in Romans 5:10 – how does that make you feel? (Uncomfortable, shocked, surprised, fearful or...)
 - Why do you believe such strong language is used to describe our condition?
 - How does Colossians 1:21-22 and James 4:4 speak into this?
 - Why can't we be friends with the world and friends with God?

 5. Re-read Romans 5:10-11. Paul describes a movement from being enemies of God to being friends of God. Why is reconciliation (restored relationship) with God bigger than just forgiveness?
 - The cross says "paid" the resurrection says "accepted" how do these two truths work together?
 - Why is the resurrection imperative for our faith? (1 Corinthians 15:17-19, and Romans 4:25)

 6. If you truly believed you were fully accepted by God and at home with Him, what might change in:
 - How you handle failure?
 - How you treat others?
 - How you see your future

 7. What best describes where you are right now? *Helpless, distant, curious, trying, struggling, at home, friend of God.*
 - How can you take one step closer to God this week?

 8. This week:
 - Instead of trying harder – practice coming closer
 - Instead of hiding – be honest with God
 - Instead of performing – receive what Jesus has already done
- 