

ROMANS

THE GRACE OF GOD: A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Peace and Joy through Christ

• Romans 5 : 1 - 11 •

Week 8

DEVOTION

In the supreme court of law, the judge or a panel of judges holds the final authority over any verdict. Once a judgment is delivered—whether guilty or not guilty—it is final, regardless of previous rulings by lower courts. Similarly, in this passage, Paul explains that we are justified, or declared "not guilty," through our faith in Jesus Christ, and as a result, we have peace with God (Romans 5:1). This peace is crucial to our salvation.

However, this justification places us in opposition to the world, Satan, and spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms, leading to an ongoing conflict, as described in Ephesians 6:12. But take heart—God uses these battles with the world and our flesh to mold us into His image, giving us hope through His promises declared in His Word (Romans 5:3-5).

We must recognize that our salvation is God's work and a profound expression of His eternal love. He sent His only Son, Jesus from His heavenly throne to a sinful earth, where He was scorned, beaten, and crucified for our sins (John 3:16; Isaiah 53:5). This was done so that we might escape God's wrath and eternal judgment, His wish being that none should perish (2 Peter 3:9).

Let us not take salvation through Christ lightly. When we believe in Jesus, we are reconciled with God forever (2 Corinthians 5:18-19). No matter how sinful our past may be, we become new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17), reborn as citizens of heaven living temporarily on earth (Philippians 3:20). Let us rejoice in this truth and live confidently. Amen!

Monday

Read Philippians 4:7 and Colossians 1:20

Peace with God: Peace with God is not based on circumstances but on reconciliation through Jesus Christ. It affects our outlook by giving us confidence in God's presence and support.

1. How does understanding that you are no longer God's enemy change the way you approach Him in prayer?
2. In what ways does the peace you have with God influence how you handle conflict in your life?
3. Are there specific areas in your life that you need to embrace the peace that comes from being reconciled to God? How are you doing?

Tuesday

Read 2 Corinthians 12:19 and Hebrews 4:16

Access to Grace: We experience God's grace when we face trials, make decisions, or overcome sin. It is His gift that empowers us to live out His purposes.

1. How does knowing you have access to God's grace shape your perspective on life's challenges?
2. How can you better rely on God's grace instead of your own strength when facing difficult situations? What changes do you need to make to live under His eternal grace?

Wednesday

Read 1 Peter 1:6-7 and 2 Corinthians 4:16 -17

Hope in Suffering: Suffering has a refining effect, teaching us endurance and deepening our hope in God. Romans 5:3-5 reminds us that our trials serve a purpose and lead to maturity

1. How has God used suffering in your life to develop your character or deepen your faith?
2. Why is it important to remember that suffering produces hope? How does this perspective change how you face trials?
3. How has suffering produced perseverance and hope in you? Share your experience.

Thursday

Read 1 John 4:9-10 and Romans 8:32

God's Love Demonstrated: Christ's death reveals God's deep and unconditional love for us. This teaches us that God is merciful, sacrificial, and committed to saving us.

1. How does the truth that Christ died for us while we were still sinners help you understand God's love in a deeper way?
2. In what ways can you demonstrate God's sacrificial love to others, knowing that He loved us first?
3. Who in your life needs to experience the kind of unconditional love God showed us through Christ? What steps can you take this week to show that love in practical ways?

Friday

Read Colossians 3:12 -13 and Mathew 5: 23 -24

Reconciliation and Salvation: Knowing we are reconciled to God leads us to seek peace and forgiveness in our relationships. As God forgave us, we are called to forgive others.

1. How does knowing you are reconciled with God affect your relationship with Him and with others?
2. Is there anyone you need to reconcile with, knowing that Christ has reconciled you to God? How can the group support you in taking a step towards that reconciliation?